

VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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Man of the World (lighting up): "WE'LL 'AVE TO GIVE IT 'EM, I EXPECT, CHORLIE!"

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To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom; to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it; to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

The General Election is now sufficiently far advanced to enable us to predict the main result with a tolerable degree of certainty. At the time of going to press (Wednesday afternoon) nearly half the House of Commons had been already returned, and the Liberals had secured a net gain of one seat. Unless therefore a remarkable change of complexion comes over the situation in the remaining days of the election the Liberal Government will continue in power. It will therefore still be to Mr. Asquith and his colleagues that the demand for the Vote will be made.

The Remaining Constituencies.

With the view of weakening them as much as possible, and breaking down the opposition to women which they have shown during the five years of their power, it is important that members of the Women's

Social and Political Union and their friends should spare no effort in urging the electors to vote against the Liberal candidates in the constituencies which still remain to be polled. Particular attention is directed to the fight in the Wisbech Division of Cambridgeshire, in which the candidates are the Hon. Neil Primrose (L.), and Lord Robert Cecil (C.), and where Mrs. Pankhurst is conducting a spirited campaign.

Victories of the W.S.P.U.

As pointed out in our issue last week, the Women's Social and Political Union, in addition to its general action all over the country in this election, has paid special attention to certain seats, and, in these, considerable success has been attained. Of the twelve losses sustained by Liberals in the first three days' polls, four were in constituencies specially worked by the W.S.P.U. — North Islington, West St. Pancras, Birkenhead, and Darlington. Moreover in Reading, where an effective campaign had been carried on, the majority of Sir Rufus Isaacs was reduced from 207 to 99, and again in Scarborough Mr. Russell Bea's majority fell from 292 to 52.

W.S.P.U. Election Work.

In order to understand the full value of the action of the W.S.P.U., it is necessary to appreciate that the force which it brings to bear in the election is superimposed upon the other forces which are at work, and in consequence it may often be able to turn the scale against the Liberal nominee even though a comparatively small number of electors may be willing to subordinate all other considerations to that of Woman Suffrage.

How it Tells.

The effect of the Women's Social and Political Union is produced in three ways. In the first place, in every constituency there are some men who either regard Woman Suffrage as the most important question of the day, or who realise that it is one of the essential Liberal principles. When these men are convinced

that they can only be true to their principles by going against their party they vote (perhaps for the first time in their lives) against the Liberal candidate. Secondly, there are many men who would naturally be taken in by the professions of democratic principle to which Liberals give lip homage. It only needs exposure by the Suffragettes to prick the bubble and show up these professions for the sham which they really are. Thus convinced, these men also do not hesitate to vote against the Liberal nominee. Thirdly, there are men in every constituency, even among those who have never heard a W.S.P.U. speaker or read a W.S.P.U. pamphlet, who have been weakened in their allegiance to the Liberal party by their recognition of the loss of prestige which that party has suffered owing to its complete mismanagement of the whole Suffrage agitation. They also vote against the Liberal candidate. The combined effect all over the country of the whole conflict between the W.S.P.U. and the Government has been accordingly very considerable. Such opposition will probably have cost the Liberal Government some 30 or 40 seats before the whole tale is told, and these 30 or 40 seats (counting 60 or 80 on a division) will make all the difference to the Government when it comes to its task in the new House of Commons.

East St. Pancras.

We may contrast with this effective policy of the Women's Social and Political Union the ill-advised attempt of another Suffrage Society to run special Suffrage candidates. Mr. Herbert Jacobs, standing as an independent Liberal in the Suffrage interest in East St. Pancras, polled altogether 22 votes! This result was exactly what might have been anticipated, and is likely to occur again wherever the Suffrage forces instead of being used to hold the balance of power are pitted alone against the whole official party forces. The day has gone by when candidates were elected according to their individual opinions. They are elected or

rejected to-day according to the flag under which they serve. A man who opposes himself to the official Government nominee and yet declares himself a supporter of the Government is an anachronism which the electors neither understand nor appreciate. In the actual case of East St. Pancras these general considerations were very much strengthened by the facts of the particular situation. Firstly, both the orthodox candidates professed themselves to be supporters of Woman Suffrage. Secondly, there had been no nursing of the constituency by the Woman Suffrage candidate. Thirdly, the supporters of Mr. Jacobs only obtained an occasional hearing, and therefore few of the electors were given any opportunity of understanding his candidature or of learning why the position of the Liberal candidate on Woman Suffrage was considered unsatisfactory. It is to be hoped that in future Woman Suffragists will abandon such futile methods of political warfare and will adopt instead those carried out with such success in the neighbouring constituency of West St. Pancras and elsewhere, of defeating the Government nominee by transferring from him votes which he could not afford to lose.

Breakfast to Women Ex-Prisoners.

Twenty-seven women were released from Holloway on Wednesday morning and given an enthusiastic welcome outside the gates by their friends. Later, a complimentary breakfast was given in their honour at the Criterion Restaurant, the chair being taken by Mrs. Ayrton, who spoke of the magnificent spirit that moves the women in this movement. The prisoners addressed the gathering in turn, and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst also spoke. Three women are being released as we go to press, and thirty-six still remain in prison.

Protests at Meetings.

In spite of elaborate and even ridiculous precautions, Cabinet Ministers have not been allowed to forget during the past week the claim of Woman Suffrage to a place in their addresses. Thus, at Sheffield, where a large part of the town was barricaded and regiments of police were requisitioned to protect Mr. Churchill, he was nevertheless heckled effectively on the question. Mr. Churchill was forced to answer questions in his own constituency Dundee, and at Frodsham and Chester the most absurd precautions were taken to guard him from the Suffragettes. At Newcastle the Prime Minister was very effectively heckled by members of the Men's Political Union, and Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Burns have been reminded of the women's demand in other places.

The Law as to Bail.

We commented last week on the refusal of Sir Albert de Rutzen to grant bail in the case of Mr. Franklin, Mr. Churchill's assailant. On Thursday the question was referred to a judge in chambers, who was asked to insist on bail being allowed. The application was refused, the judge deciding that though he had power to override the magistrate, he did not propose to do so in this case. This decision is tantamount to a refusal on the part of the authorities to accept the definite undertaking of a suffrage prisoner not to repeat his offence pending the hearing of his case. Considering that suffrage prisoners in the past had invariably adhered to any undertakings of this character which they had given, this decision seems to us to be absolutely uncalled for. Moreover, it must be remembered that a prisoner under remand is not merely simply retained under surveillance, but is treated precisely as a convicted prisoner, except that at stated intervals he is allowed to see (through the bars of his cell) a limited number of his friends. Consequently, to remand a prisoner for a week in custody is simply to give him a week's imprisonment before his offence is proved. This opens the door to a new device for punishing innocent supporters of the movement.

The Trial of Mr. Franklin.

On the following Monday Mr. Franklin was again brought up at Bow Street. This time the Home Secretary himself appeared—escorted to and from the police-court by a small army of police and detectives—to give evidence. As the main facts were not disputed by Mr. Franklin, there was no question but that the case would go against him, and he was sentenced in the result to six weeks' imprisonment in the second division. In our leading article this week Mrs. Pethick Lawrence compares this sentence with that inflicted on men in other parts of the country for dastardly and deliberate assaults on women.

Why the Deed was Done.

It is one of the peculiarities of our legal system, and particularly of our police courts, that the prisoner is often unable to get a clear statement of his case before the court.

Though Mr. Henle, on behalf of Mr. Franklin, argued very clearly that the motives which prompted him to his action were strictly relevant, and though the magistrate, to a certain extent, agreed, yet by a jangle of legal points a full opportunity was never provided for these motives to be heard. First, permission was refused to Mr. Henle to put certain questions to Mr. Churchill in cross-examination; then in the examination of Mr. Franklin the prosecution intervened to prevent a full statement. The article which we print on page 162, is therefore the first complete statement by Mr. Franklin of the considerations which led to his action. In Mr. Franklin's view, Mr. Churchill had been guilty of certain offences for which there was no legal redress, and which in his opinion could only be punished by personal chastisement. These offences were, firstly, the ill-treatment of women by the police at Mr. Churchill's instructions; secondly, the insulting language used by him about Mrs. Cobden Sanderson; thirdly, the slander in the House of Commons that women had bitten and scratched the police; fourthly, the brutal ill-usage of men at Mr. Churchill's meeting; fifthly, the slanderous assertion that men were paid for this work of going to protest. No one who heard Mr. Franklin's evidence under the severe cross-examination in Bow Street can have felt anything but respect for his frankness and his complete disinterestedness and nobility of character in taking the course which he thought to be necessary.

The Press Boycott.

Very significant is the refusal of the Editor of the *Times* to publish the statement of Mrs. Ayrton (which can be found on page 163) with regard to her experiences on November 18 and November 22 in Parliament Square and in Downing Street. Mrs. Ayrton was a member of the deputation, was assaulted by the police in the discharge of her duty, and was an eye-witness of much that happened. As an exact observer and accurate recorder in the field of research and discovery she has won a world-wide reputation as a great scientist. Yet the Editor of the *Times* refused to allow Mrs. Ayrton's correction of a statement made by some anonymous reporter to appear in the columns of his paper. Why? Because the truth with regard to this movement must be hidden and the facts hushed up. Another letter carefully excluded from the ordinary papers is the striking contribution from the well-known author Mr. William de Morgan, which we print on the next page. In that letter Mr. de Morgan states quite clearly that he as a Liberal, and because he is a Liberal, is voting against the Liberal party at this election because of the attitude of the Government to Woman Suffrage. Referring to the ill-treatment of the women he says:—

Endless prevarication and denial has not diminished one whit the effect produced by the simple narrations of the victims. It has only strengthened my conviction that we have before us a great question of right against wrong, and that the duty of all who think that the Ministry has shilly-shallyed with a plain issue and coquetted with expediency, is to vote against them at the ensuing election. I believe that if all electors who feel as I do on the subject follow out their conclusions in the same way, it will make a substantial difference in the numbers at the polls.

A third letter excluded by the papers was one from Miss Beatrice Harraden, dealing with the false accusation which has been made by Mr. Churchill and Mr. Lloyd George as to the payment of the members of the Men's Political Union for making protests at meetings. This letter will also be found on the next page. When letters from such distinguished persons are carefully excluded from the papers we cannot fail to come to the conclusion that it is done with the deliberate intention to place only one point of view before the public. The duty of supporters of Woman Suffrage, under these circumstances, is perfectly clear; they must direct all their energies to increasing the circulation of our own organ *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, which alone can be relied upon to state the facts of the case.

A Suffragette Peer.

Those who condemn the militant character of the Suffrage agitation, and advise women to adopt only constitutional methods, are invited to consider the recent addresses of two of the Peers. Lord Rosebery, speaking on Saturday last, said:—

You are going to have an uncontrolled Single Chamber, and the terrible thing I have to say to you is this—I shall not expand the sentence—that when all Second Chamber control is gone the only restraint that remains on a Single Chamber is the restraint of physical force.

The *Manchester Guardian*, commenting on this, points out that there are other ways of coercing the House of Commons, and cites as one of them "a disastrous defeat at the polls." This remedy is not open to voteless women. Lord Derby puts the case still more frankly, for speaking at Lancaster on Tuesday night he said:—

If the Parliament Bill becomes law the Lords will be absolutely useless and powerless. I shall no longer be able to take the part, which every man ought to try to take, in the management of the affairs of his country. If you won't take pity on the Lords as a whole, will you take pity on me. I can do nothing in the House of Lords. I cannot sit in the House of Commons. I haven't even got a vote. I am nothing more nor less than a male suffragette. If, as the result of Mr. Asquith's resolutions, I indulge in the exhilarating pursuit of kicking Mr. Birrell or pursuing Mr. Winston Churchill about the country, both followed by detectives, you know it is not my inclination but my desire to get some rights as a suffragette.

Of course our readers will remember that our women were not guilty of kicking Mr. Birrell, but apart from this inaccuracy the words of Lord Derby are well worth careful consideration.

Interesting Letters.

Among other interesting items in the paper is the letter from Mr. Youden, a prominent Nonconformist minister in Liverpool, urging the electors of Birkenhead to vote against the Liberal nominee on account of the action of the Liberal Government towards women. This letter was read out at meetings and produced great effect. Another letter from Miss Adela Parker, the President of the College Suffrage League of Washington, attributes the victory of the women in Washington State largely to the influence of the English agitation. Mr. Löwy also sends his reply to the Home Office when it was suggested to him that he should pay the fine for his wife.

TREASURER'S NOTE.

In five days, November 28 to December 3, the Campaign Fund rose by over £1,000. I suppose that is the sort of thing the Home Secretary meant when, speaking of the Militant agitation, he said at Bow Street last Monday, "These demonstrations bring money to the movement." He is right. Militant action, active protest against tyranny, evokes interest, sympathy, and enthusiasm; it suggests and stimulates self-sacrifice; it calls forth admiration and a deep sense of gratitude on the part of those who are prevented, by circumstances or by moral or physical weakness, from joining the fighting ranks. It sends the life which is the spirit pulsing through the organisation which is the body of this movement. The money which it brings is but a symbol of things more precious than money—renewed self-dedication to the cause of human liberty, renewed determination to see this fight through, no matter what the cost in service, energy, and sacrifice. During the past two or three weeks we have made immense progress. Great developments will be seen in the coming year. New organisers will be appointed, new centres of organisation made, old centres strengthened, and there will be an extension of the campaign all over the country. Unless the enfranchisement of women is assured next Session there will be also a development on a larger scale than ever of the Militant agitation.

E. P. L.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

November 28 to December 3.		Per Mrs. F. W. Coops—	
Already acknowledged	£ s. d.	Per Miss Farrington (profit on "V.F.W.")	
Mrs. Forgo	10 0 0	Miss Holden	0 2 0
Miss Eva A. Forgo	0 2 6	Miss Wertheim	0 2 0
Miss M. Z. Hadwen	5 0 0	Miss M. Martin	0 2 6
Miss Alice Heale	5 5 0		
American Sympathiser (per) Mrs. Brannan	60 0 0	Per Miss Eans—	
Miss Charlotte Darty	5 0 0	Anon	0 2 0
Miss M. G. MacTurk	1 0 0	Nurse Hutchinson	0 5 0
Alexander	5 5 0	Miss Gardner	0 10 0
Lady Cook	5 5 0	Miss R. B. Barnard	0 10 0
"H. S. W."	100 0 0	Mrs. Barnard	0 7 6
Mrs. Darent Harrison	5 0 0	Miss Chace	5 0 0
Mrs. East (per)	0 2 0	Lady Harborton	3 0 0
Mrs. F. S. Gibbs	10 0 0	Miss Elsie Howey	0 10 0
Miss M. Corbett	0 5 0	Mrs. House (per)	1 0 0
Miss Ethel Barnard	5 0 0	Mrs. Parker (per)	1 12 7
Miss Gertrude Barnard	5 0 0	Miss Ward	0 10 0
Anon., Queen's Hall	0 5 0	Miss Midgley (per)	0 1 0
Miss L. Chapman	1 0 0	Miss Thompson	0 3 8
Anon.	5 0 0	Mrs. Walker	0 10 0
Miss Emily S. Evans	5 0 0	Mrs. Radford	0 10 0
Miss Juliette Heale	0 5 0	Per Mrs. Mansel—	
Mrs. A. Fiddian	0 2 6	Anon	0 5 0
"D. B."	0 2 6	Sale of Sweets, etc.	0 3 8
J. Hopgood Hart, Esq.	2 2 0	Hon. Mrs. Hamilton	
Miss L. Brooks	0 1 0	Russell	5 0 0
Mrs. Hyllton Dale	1 1 0	Mrs. M. Mansel	1 1 0
Mrs. Ada Court	0 10 0	Sympathiser in Street	0 6 0
Mrs. Grubb	0 1 0	Per Mrs. E. Pilliner—	
Nurse Harmer	0 3 6	Jumble Sale	4 0 0
Miss Hadwen	0 10 0	Profit on Literature	0 4 5
Miss Alberta W. Russell	1 0 0	Per Miss Fraser Smith—	
Miss Beatrice Sothman	5 0 0	Miss Angus	0 2 4
Miss Florence Sothman	5 0 0	Miss Benson	0 5 0
Miss Tobias Mathay	1 1 0	Miss Jolly	0 12 6
Miss C. Margesson	2 0 0	Miss Gardner	0 2 0
Miss Naylor (Lecture-fee)	0 10 6	The Misses Bell	3 0 0
Miss Florence M. Russell	1 0 0	Library Profits	0 10 0
Miss Rita Rowlett	0 2 0	Profit on Sales	0 19 10
Major W. J. Lister	1 0 0	Mr. Brailford's Meeting (add. profits)	2 19 8
Miss Evelyn Wright	0 15 10	Miss F. E. McFarlane	1 1 0
Mrs. Selous-Hodges	5 0 0	The Misses Macdonald	0 10 0
Mrs. Meyer	0 2 0	Leslie Over, Esq.	1 1 0
Miss Edith Wilson	2 0 0	Miss Moorhead	0 5 0
Mrs. M. Kathleen Taylor	1 0 0	Miss McKinnon	0 5 0
Miss Linda Lindsay	1 15 0	Miss Peebles	0 10 0
Mrs. Marie M. Maguire	5 0 0	Mrs. Whishaw	0 5 0
Dr. and Mrs. Chas. Lovegrove	2 2 0	Mrs. Turner	0 5 0
Miss R. Morgan-Brown	1 0 0	Mrs. Renny	4 9 5
Mrs. McKay	0 2 6	Per The Women's Press—	
Mrs. F. B. Rowe (by sale of daffodils)	1 1 0	Miss Grace Chappelow	0 2 6
Mrs. C. Annetta Richards	0 5 0	Miss Elinor C. Whitely	0 2 6
Miss Florence Smith	0 5 0	Per Miss A. Williams—	
Mrs. Troy	1 0 0	Jumble Sale	0 2 6
Mrs. Constance K. Norman	2 2 0	Profit on Tea	0 7 2
Edward Wright, Esq.	5 0 0	Biggles mail	0 1 0
Miss Catherine Wedgwood	10 0 0	Goods sold in Shop	2 12 10
Miss J. Wilson	0 10 0	Mrs. Atkinson (collected at drawing-room meeting)	3 14 6
Mr. and Mrs. Marshall	5 0 0	Miss Greig	0 5 0
Extra on V.F.W. at Charing Cross Pitch	0 3 1	Miss A. Williams (travelling expenses)	0 2 6
Miss E. Crawley (per) Charing Cross Pitch	0 9 11	Per Miss B. Wylie—	
Miss Hilda H. Edgely	0 3 8	Miss Hamilton (sale of jam)	0 7 2
Miss L. Harrison	0 2 6	Anon	0 1 8
Miss Mary Dean	0 10 0	Miss Gilson	0 6 0
Miss L. S. Henry	2 0 0	Miss Hammett	0 4 0
Miss S. Balian	1 1 0	"A. S."	0 2 0
Women Sympathisers in S. Kitt's, West Indies	4 5 0	B. Hedderon, Esq.	0 10 0
Miss B. Winfield	0 4 0	Anon	0 8 0
Philip Brewster, Esq.	2 2 0	Extra on "V. F. W."	0 5 0
Miss Edith Cobb	1 1 0	Anon	0 10 0
Miss Sylvia M. Everett	0 4 10	"One Keenly Interested"	1 10 0
son, M.D.	100 0 0	Miss Young	0 2 6
Miss Mary Ellis	0 5 0	McPherson, Esq.	0 5 0
Miss A. Donald	0 10 0	Mrs. Stephens	0 10 0
Mrs. M. Taylor	100 0 0	Dr. Henderson	0 2 0
Miss Elizabeth Robins	5 5 0	Miss McMoran	0 5 0
Pr. Helene Sakis	1 4 6		
Mrs. Roy Rothwell	5 0 0		
Mrs. M. M. Hulme	0 10 6		
Anon.	2 0 0		
Dr. Alice Corbourn	1 1 0		
Per Miss R. Barrett-Bangor, N.U.W.S.S.	1 12 6		
Per Miss L. Baras—			
Miss E. W. Grieve	0 10 0		
Miss B. Cotton Haig	6 15 0		
Mrs. Blair	1 0 0		
Mr. and Mrs. James Ivory	3 0 0		
Miss B. Dempster	1 0 0		
The Misses Dempster (As protest against injustice of prisoners' sentences)	5 0 0		
"Hair Braid"	0 3 0		
Miss Anderson	0 5 0		
Miss Janet Fall	50 0 0		
Calashale Meeting (profit)	0 7 0		
Calashale Meeting (do.)	0 5 0		
Miss Wood	0 4 0		
Miss Methven	5 0 0		
"M. M. H."	0 10 0		
Miss Robertson	0 2 6		
Miss H. M. Logan	1 0 0		
Miss Thompson	3 4 0		

NOTE.—The subscription entered in previous issue as from "Mrs A. M. Scott, M." should be "The Misses A. and M. Scott." Also "Profit on Mrs. Brailford's meeting" should be "Mr. Brailford's meeting."

Cheques should be made out to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and crossed "Barclay and Co."

TWO IMPORTANT OPINIONS.

MR. WILLIAM DE MORGAN'S VOTE.

Mrs. Cobden Sanderson has received the following letter from Mr. William De Morgan, the distinguished author of "Joseph Vance," "An Affair of Dishonour," "Alice-for-Short," and other novels:—

"DEAR MRS. COBDEN SANDERSON,—An expression of sympathy for the cause you are engaged in and admiration of its advocates can never be out of place, and the present time calls for both from all who feel as strongly as I do on the subject. Pray accept them from me herewith.

"The only practical testimony of earnestness in the cause which one unable to give active support to it can render is to let this question, and this alone, decide his electoral vote, to the exclusion of every other political motive.

"In the last election, although I acted under a feeling that Liberalism had cast all that the first syllables of its name implies to the winds long ago, and that I was not voting against Liberals at all, I did so nominally, at the cost of a technical renunciation of previous political conviction. But the gist of my action—call it renegading if you will—lay in the question of women's voting, and the attitude of the Government towards its advocates, 'militant' and otherwise. The contemptuous disregard of the fact that the issue is one of right against wrong, of equity against the claim of male electors to throw a portion of their onus of tax-payment on persons to whom no share in the disposal of tax-funds is granted, was sufficient to take me to the polling booth to vote for a candidate whose views were not the same as my own, solely for the sake of making my feeble protest in a corner against a Ministry that appeared to me to be running counter to its pledges and the best traditions of its party. I shall repeat my vote at this election.

"Since then we have had to live through the shameful story of the incarceration of ladies for seeking an interview with the Prime Minister—which many say he had no constitutional right to refuse—and the still more shameful revelation of the indignities and torment to which they were subjected by the prison authorities. I have never felt so ashamed of my male fellow-creatures as I did when I came to know the particulars of these disgraceful revivals of the *moyen age*.

"Endless prevarication and denial has not diminished one whit the effect produced by the simple narrations of the victims. It has only strengthened my conviction that we have before us a great question of right against wrong, and that the duty of all who think that the Ministry has shilly-shallied with a plain issue and coquetted with expediency, is to vote against them at the ensuing election, I believe that if all electors who feel as I do on the subject follow out their conclusions in the same way, it will make a substantial difference in the numbers at the polls."

William De Morgan.

MISS HARRADEN CRITICISES MR. CHURCHILL.

Miss Beatrice Harraden has sent the following letter to the *Times*, but that paper has not published it:—

Sir,—Mr. Churchill in a recent meeting at Lambeth Baths referred to the action of a supporter of Woman Suffrage who had asked a question about Woman Suffrage, and was, in accordance with the usual Liberal custom, violently thrown out, as one of the "money-fed" attempts to disturb meetings.

Now, Sir, this word money-fed is an offence and an affront, and Mr. Churchill cannot be allowed with impunity to speak thus insultingly of any single member of that gallant band of men who have come forward either in one way or in another to help women in their struggle for enfranchisement. I therefore beg you to print these few lines from my pen as a protest against an insult which all honourable gentlemen will, I feel sure, repudiate.

In our Suffrage movement no comrades are more honoured than our men-supporters. We are intensely proud of them and deeply grateful to them. They have dared to stand out from the ranks of their sex and face the scorn and ridicule of those who have scoffed and jeered at them. They have written for us, spoken for us, testified for us, fought for us mentally, battled for us physically. They have been thrown out of meetings for us, brutally assaulted and injured for us, imprisoned for us. All this they have done and suffered because they have understood the meaning of our movement, and have been impelled by a new and true code of chivalry to try and make things easier for us in our prolonged fight for citizenship. And alongside of this active little phalanx in faithful co-operation stand the fathers, the husbands, the sweethearts who, with a noble unselfishness, and at a considerable sacrifice to themselves of personal happiness and serenity, have spared, and are sparing, their daughters, their wives, their betrothed from carrying out the work of this reform.

These, then, are the men whom Mr. Churchill attempts to stigmatise as our "money-fed" supporters.

Yours faithfully,

Hampstead.

Beatrice Harraden.

W.S.P.U. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Among important engagements for the next few days are the following:— Mrs. Pankhurst will speak at the Public Hall, March, to-morrow (Saturday), December 10th, at 8 p.m., and at the Town Hall, Hampstead, on Tuesday, December 20th, at 8 p.m. Miss Christabel Pankhurst will speak at Southport to-morrow (Saturday), December 10th, at 3.30 p.m.

The Woman's Press, 158, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

Christmas Presents for everybody can be had at the Women's Press. Amongst the many suitable articles for men are cigar and cigarette cases, silver matchboxes and ties, while for ladies there is a large variety, including some very pretty brooches, enamel on silver, in various designs. Members and friends will find it well worth while to pay the Woman's Press a call before shopping elsewhere. The Christmas Bazaar is open from 10 to 7 daily, 10 to 2 on Saturdays. Local Secretaries are requested to send in their wholesale orders early, as the wholesale department closes at the usual time—6 o'clock; Saturdays, 1 o'clock.

London Free Meetings.

Two more Monday meetings will be held before Christmas at the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W., at 3 o'clock. Next Monday, December 12th, the speakers will be Miss Eva Moore, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B., and Mr. Pethick Lawrence. Speakers for the following Monday will be announced next week. The meeting next Thursday, December 15th, at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, at 8 o'clock, will be the final one before Christmas, and will be addressed by Mrs. Pankhurst, and others. These meetings will be resumed at the Queen's Hall on Monday, January 23rd, at 3 p.m.; and at the Steinway Hall, Lower Seymour Street, on Thursday, January 26th, at 8 p.m.

Welcome to the Prisoners.

The women who were sentenced at Bow Street on Thursday, November 24th, to one month's imprisonment will be released at 8 a.m. on Friday, December 23rd, and will be welcomed at the prison gates. A luncheon at the Criterion Restaurant will be given in their honour at 1.30. on the same day. Tickets, price 3s. 6d., are now on sale, and can be obtained from Miss Cooke, Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. Local unions wishing to have a few tickets, on sale or return, are asked to apply to Miss Cooke.

WHEN ELECTION TIME DRAWS NEAR.

(With apologies to Mr. Rudyard Kipling, and hoping it may help to convert him.)

I sauntered into Downing Street—I happened to be near—
The frightened Winston shouted out, "Turn out the women here!"
The police they seized me by the arms, the roughs they jeered abuse,
And I was given thirty days for struggling to get loose.

O! it's Woman this, and Woman that, and "Woman, home's your sphere!"

But it's "Ladies, we rely on you," when Election time draws near,

When Election time draws near, my friends, Election time draws near,

O! it's "Ladies, we rely on you," when Election time draws near.

I went into a public hall, as quiet as could be,
They gave a drunk elector room, but had no room for me;
I asked a civil question, and they chucked me down the stair,
But when it comes to canvassing, O! then we're asked to share!

For it's Woman this, and Woman that, and "Woman, go and spin!"

But it's "All your help is needed," when there are votes to win,
When there are votes to win, my friends, when there are votes to win,

O! it's "All your help is needed," when there are votes to win.

Yes, making mock of Women's work (who guarded your first sleep?)
Is cheaper than the Women's work, and it's starvation cheap;
And hustling helpless Women when they're asking for their rights
Is five times better business than the taking on their fights.

When it's Woman this, and Woman that, "emotion without brain,"

But it's "lower than the angels," when there's a seat to gain,
When there's a seat to gain, my friends, when there's a seat to gain,

O! it's "lower than the angels," when there's a seat to gain.

We're neither queens nor angels, nor yet "an unsexed crew,"
But citizens and ratepayers, remarkably like you;
And if sometimes our methods show a lack of tenderness,
Why, our calm appeals to reason aren't reported in the Press.

While it's Woman this, and Woman that, and "Women, mind your homes!"

But it's "Please to do the drudgery!" when electioneering comes,

When electioneering comes, my friends, electioneering comes,
O! it's "Please to do the drudgery," when electioneering comes.

You talk of sheltered lives for us, and chivalry, and all;

We'll wait for thrones and worship, if you'll treat us "rational."
Don't rant about your homage, but prove it to our face.

For the state of things at present is a national disgrace.

For it's Woman this, and Woman that, and "Don't heed cats that mew!"

But it's "British Wives and Mothers!" when Election Day is due,

And it's Woman this, and Woman that, and anything you please;

And Woman is no hoodwinked fool,—you bet that Woman sees!

ROSALINE MARSON.

Debenham & Freebody

Wigmore Street.

(Cavendish Square) London, W.

Famous for over a Century
for Taste, for Quality, for Value

THE FASHION FOR FUR COATS.

Our well-known 25-guinea Long Fur Coats are made in Seal Musquash, Natural Musquash, Grey Squirrel Back, Mole-skin, and Russian Pony. They are designed and made on the premises by our highly skilled Furriers, from reliable skins. The shapes are invariably excellent. Customers preferring a shorter coat can obtain similar models 45 inches long at proportionately low prices.



Full Length Seal Musquash Coat (as sketch) made from selected whole skins, closely resembling real sealskin, lined with rich messaline silk. Perfect shape. **25 Gns.**

LONG FUR COATS.

In Russian Pony lined silk ...	25 Gns.
In Natural Musquash lined Squirrel ...	25 Gns.
In Grey Squirrel lined silk ...	25 Gns.
In Musquash Coney lined silk ...	15 Gns.
In Black Caracul lined silk ...	15 Gns.



Russian Pony Coat (as sketch), made from beautifully bright selected skins, light in weight, but exceptionally durable, having the effect of fine broadtail, lined with rich quality satin. **19 Gns.**

45 INCH FUR COATS.

In Seal Musquash lined silk ...	22 Gns.
In Natural Musquash lined satin ...	19 Gns.
In Mole-skin lined silk ...	19 Gns.
In Grey Squirrel lined silk ...	19 Gns.
In Caracul lined silk ...	10 Gns.
In Musquash Coney lined silk ...	9½ Gns.

CATALOGUE POST FREE.

Debenham & Freebody

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

Suffragette Victories at the Polls.

The hard work done by the Suffragettes all over the country has met with considerable success. Of the constituencies specially worked by the W.S.P.U., and referred to in last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN, the Government has been defeated and the Liberal turned out in four, viz.:—North Islington, West St. Pancras, Birkenhead and Darlington, the figures for which are given below.

NORTH ISLINGTON.

RESULT.	
G. A. Touché (C.)	5,322
D. S. Waterlow (L.)	5,072
Con. maj.	309
Result in 1910.—L., 5,543; C., 5,512.—Maj., 31.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—680A, Holloway Road.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Bonwick.	

WEST ST. PANCRAS.

RESULT.	
Felix Cassel, K.C. (C.)	3,304
Sir W. J. Collins (L.)	3,376
Con. maj.	8
Result in 1910.—L., 3,553; C., 3,543.—Maj., 10.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—153, Albany Street, N.W.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. Bates.	

Another triumph for the Women's Cause! The electors have been thoroughly canvassed, practically every street in the constituency having been worked. There is evidently an immense body of moderate opinion in West St. Pancras in favour of Votes for Women. Rain did not matter when the canvasser was told "My husband glories in you women"; "The harder you fight, the sooner you'll get it," etc. The polling stations were manned all day long and a decorated motorcar made a tour of the constituency. Special thanks to Mrs. Clayton and Miss Postlethwaite for giving ten hours each per day to the Committee room; to the following speakers:—Mrs. Henderson, Miss Garrett Anderson, M.D., Dr. Flore Murray, Miss E. Wyllie, Miss Phillips, Mr. Nevinson, and Mr. Clayton, and to the large body of Kensington and Hampstead workers who came faithfully day by day, ready for any work in any weather.

Gratefully acknowledged for campaign expenses: Miss Garrett Anderson, M.D., £10; Miss Worter, £5; Mrs. Cope, £2 2s.; Mrs. Arnold Hannay, £2; Miss Hurry, £1 1s.; Miss Vera Swan, £1; Mrs. Jopling Rowe, 10s.; Miss Violet Hunt, 10s.; Dr. Corthorne, 5s.; Miss Douglas, 5s. 4d.; Miss C. Boyd, 5s.; Miss Martin, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. McGrath, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Rose, 1s.; Miss McLellan, 1s. Special thanks to Dr. Jessie Murray and Dr. Garrett Anderson for their kindness in giving hospitality to the workers all through the week. It was greatly appreciated by everyone.

BIRKENHEAD.

RESULT.	
A. Bigland (C.)	8,304
H. Vivian (L.)	7,349
Con. maj.	1,055
Result in 1910.—L., 8,120; C., 7,976.—Maj., 144.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—22, Hamilton Street.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Ada Flatman.	

Another triumphant victory! A most strenuous election campaign has just concluded. Splendid meetings have been held all over the constituency, terminating with a huge meeting on Saturday night, when Miss Flatman and Miss Broughton addressed thousands of people. Mr. Pethick Lawrence also had a good meeting at the Y.M.C.A. Hall, and his arguments evidently went home to the audience. All helpers are sincerely thanked. A good trade has been done at the Committee Rooms in buttons and badges, and Votes for Women has sold well.

The electors were considerably influenced by a letter from the Rev. Harry Youden, a prominent Nonconformist minister. In the course of his letter he said:—

Mr. Asquith, by his confused and timid handling of public affairs, has thrown away the greatest chance of wiping off long arrears of social legislation ever possessed by a statesman. By playing a secret game he has disheartened his own followers. He has never shown a perception of the high moral questions at stake. I consider his treatment of the women's question has shown him to be blind to the nature of political equality and a traitor to the supposed principles of Liberalism. While refusing the direct representation of women he is denying every argument he uses against the Peers. In the Conciliation Bill he had the opportunity of closing the controversy and bringing the women on his side. If the ordinary Liberal member who believes in woman suffrage had used their influence, Mr. Asquith would have given way. The blame therefore must rest with men like Mr. Vivian, and I should have no scruple in opposing his re-election. There are many questions calling for settlement. Are the women to wait till Parliament has nothing to do—or should they be at once given a voice in settling these urgent questions? I say they should and could.

DARLINGTON.

RESULT.	
H. Pike Fosse (C.)	4,581
P. Maddison (L.)	4,572
Con. maj.	489
Result in 1910.—L., 4,815; C., 4,768.—Maj., 20.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—5, Meland Street.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. Baines.	

With only five days' work a number of electors promised to vote against the Government, a promise they manfully carried out. Large and enthusiastic meetings have been held, and all through the campaign the Suffragettes have been cheered at every turn. The most remarkable

thing in the campaign was the large number of men who promised, that though they had voted Liberal for from 10 to 30 years respectively, that for the first time in their lives they would vote against the Liberal, declaring Tariff Reform or Free Trade to be of no consequence when Liberal principles were openly violated, and British women were robbed of their legitimate right.

Other Results.

In many of the other constituencies that were worked, although victory was not declared, a large amount of very valuable propaganda work has been done. By the time we went to press, polling had taken place in the following constituencies:—

BATTERSEA.

RESULT.	
Rt. Hon. John Burns (L.)	7,339
Sir John Harrington (C.)	6,514
G. L. N. Shaw (S.)	577
Lib. maj.	1,232
Result in 1910.—L., 7,340; C., 7,385.—Maj., 555.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—330, Battersea Park Rd.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Haig.	

Although the Liberal candidate has not been kept out, a wonderful week of work has been accomplished, seven or eight open-air meetings being held nightly. The people stood listening, and appeared to forget the pouring rain. Miss Pankhurst's meeting at the Town Hall was a great success, and the John Burns party, of whom there were a good number, appeared much impressed, in spite of themselves.

CAMBERWELL (Peckham).

RESULT.	
A. Richardson (L.)	5,237
H. C. Gooch (C.)	4,586
Lib. maj.	41
Result in 1910.—C., 5,330; L., 5,247.—Maj., 83.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—70A, Elm Grove, Eye Lane, Peckham.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. Cameron-Swan.	

Though we were not successful in stemming the tide which was flowing in favour of the Liberal some good propaganda work was done. At one of the stations three electors told a member they had been regretfully compelled to vote against their party, as they felt so strongly on the woman's side. Thanks to helpers who kindly came from Kensington and Croydon and worked so ungrudgingly, also to the local contingent of the Men's societies, whose comradely services were much appreciated.

LAMBETH (Kennington).

RESULT.	
Stephen Collins (L.)	3,565
Col. F. A. Lucas (C.)	3,510
Victor Grayson (S.)	303
Lib. maj.	55
Result in 1910.—L., 4,246; C., 3,985.—Maj., 381.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—136, South Lambeth Road.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Leonora Tyson.	

Although the Liberal has not been kept out, the party majority has been greatly reduced. Workers were received everywhere with kindness and sympathy. The W.S.P.U. Election Address was delivered at every house in the constituency. Miss Christabel Pankhurst spoke at the Institute, Priory Road, South Lambeth, on the eve of the poll. The meeting was a great success.

EAST ISLINGTON.

RESULT.	
G. H. Radford (L.)	4,503
P. M. Pidditch (C.)	4,973
Lib. maj.	125
Result in 1910.—L., 5,003; C., 4,674.—Maj., 329.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—63, Hornsey Road.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Sylvia Hart, Miss M. Rock.	

WEST ISLINGTON.

RESULT.	
Right Hon. T. Lough (L.)	3,529
W. G. Black (C.)	3,265
Lib. maj.	504
Result in 1910.—L., 3,708; C., 3,514.—Maj., 264.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—278, Caledonian Road.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Hauser.	

SHOREDITCH (Hoxton).

RESULT.	
Dr. C. Addison (L.)	3,451
F. Francis (C.)	2,831
Lib. maj.	620
Result in 1910.—L., 3,736; C., 3,398.—Maj., 383.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—276, Old Street, E.C.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss H. Cragg, Miss Hicks.	

Owing to an error Mr. H. G. Chancellor's name appeared in place of Dr. C. Addison's in last week's issue of Votes for Women.

BATH.

RESULT.	
Lord A. Thynne (C.)	3,975
Sir G. Hunter (C.)	3,224
G. P. Gooch (L.)	3,424
G. A. Hardy (S.)	3,224
Con. maj.	219
Result in 1910.—C., 3,800; L., 3,771.—Maj., 118.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—12, Walcot Street.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Mary Whitway.	

The W.S.P.U. election addresses, leaflets and Votes for Women have been competently distributed. On Saturday night a good band of

workers stood outside the great Liberal Demonstration in the Assembly Rooms, and gave out a very large number of election leaflets to the electors as they entered the building. The election posters have also been very prominent in different parts of the town.

BRIGHTON and HOVE.

RESULT.	
Capt. G. C. Tryon (C.)	10,780
Hon. Walter Rile (C.)	10,757
A. Morris (L.)	8,723
M. Nickalls (L.)	8,686
Con. maj.	4,057

Result in 1910.—C., 11,567; L., 7,508.—Maj., 4,061.
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—8, North Street, Quadrant.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—(Pro tem.) Mrs. McKeown.
The Liberals have been defeated again. W.S.P.U. meetings have been held almost daily on the front, and there have been good sales of Votes for Women. Miss Turner's account of the Deputation rousing much interest. Thanks to all speakers and other helpers, to those who have taken extra duties at the office during the week, to Miss Gannaway for election bows, and also to the member who supplied a telling poster for the outside decoration of the office.

CANTERBURY.

RESULT.	
H. Bennett Goldney (I U)	1,335
J. Howard (C.)	1,188
W. J. Fisher (L.)	685
I U maj.	978
Result in 1910.—U., 1,331; L.U., 1,350; L., 815.—Maj., 21.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—The County Hotel.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss P. Macaulay.	
Report held over till next week.	

READING.

RESULT.	
Sir Rufus Isaacs, K.C. (L.)	5,994
Captain L. G. Wilson (C.)	5,925
Lib. maj.	99
Result in 1910.—L., 5,264; C., 5,567.—Maj., 207.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—32A, West Street.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. Shaw.	

The election is over, and the Liberal majority is greatly reduced. There is little doubt that had Sir Rufus Isaacs's opponent not been a new man to the constituency, the Liberal would have had a poor chance. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence spent three days speaking to crowded meetings in the Corn Exchange, while the large working population were greatly impressed by the speeches of Mrs. Leigh and Miss Leslie Hall at the outdoor pitches. In the absence of an organiser Mrs. Shaw kindly took charge of the election campaign.

SCARBOROUGH.

RESULT.	
W. Russell Ken (L.)	2,763
Hon. G. V. A. Monckton-Arundel (C.)	2,711
Lib. maj.	52
Result in 1910.—L., 3,011; C., 2,719.—Maj., 292.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—72, Westborough.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss M. Phillips.	

Several successful open-air meetings were held from the decorated carriage on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Miss Evelyn Sharp's visit was very much appreciated by all. Miss Millar Wilson's story of Mr. Churchill's visit to Bradford and of Mr. Hawkins' bravery under the disgraceful treatment accorded him by the stewards, roused much indignation against the Government, and Mr. Churchill in particular. Warmest thanks to all local members whose energy in working up meetings, stewarding, etc., was so largely responsible for the success of the campaign.

STAFFORD.

RESULT.	
R. W. Essex (L.)	1,982
Col. Nicholson (C.)	1,937
Lib. maj.	155
Result in 1910.—L., 2,042; C., 1,957.—Maj., 85.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—Rastgate Street.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss D. Evans.	

Although the Liberal has been returned a great deal of interest in the women's cause has been aroused, and, as an angry Liberal remarked, "This is the greatest blow struck against the Liberal cause during the whole campaign." On Wednesday evening a small band of men organised themselves to protect the women, and by their splendid fight the women were enabled to hold a large and good meeting. On Thursday evening the borough hall was full to overflowing, and about 500 people were turned away. Mr. Davis was in the chair, and the meeting was addressed by Miss Tasker and Miss Evans.

WEST SALFORD.

RESULT.	
Sir G. Agnew (L.)	3,063
G. B. Baine (C.)	3,063
Lib. maj.	624
Result in 1910.—L., 3,216; C., 3,239.—Maj., 97.	
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—17, St. Anne's Square, Manchester.	
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Georgina Breckenbury.	

A vigorous campaign was carried on, and in spite of the fact that the Labour candidate A. A. Farrel, Esq., withdrew at the last moment, Sir G. W. Agnew's majority was reduced by 147.

Wednesday and Thursday.

The following constituencies are polling as we go to Press:—

DUDLEY.

Polling Day, Wednesday, December 7.
Candidates.—Maj. Griffith Bosworth (C.), A. G. Hooper (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—4, Union Street.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Burkhitt.
Result in 1910.—L., 3,342; C., 3,156.—Maj., 187.
On Tuesday evening Mr. Pethick Lawrence addressed an interested meeting.
Canvassing has been most satisfactory. Fresh ground has been broken and a wonderful amount of sympathy has been shown, especially amongst the shopkeepers. Suffragettes were not received well on their first appearance in the town, but after they had been there a week a marvellous change was noticed. Instead of the crowd shouting and boosing they now called for "Three Cheers for the Suffragettes, and keep the Liberal Out."

DUNDEE.

Polling Day, Thursday, Dec. 8.
Candidates.—W. Churchill (L.), J. S. Lloyd (C.), St. G. Baxter (C.), Alex. Wilkie (Lab.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—61, Nethergate.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Fraser Smith.
Result in 1910.—L., 10,365; C., 4,562.—Maj., 5,813.
Saturday, Dec. 10.—Palmers Street Mission Hall, 44, Hilltown, Dundee, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 14.—Strathgarry, Lady Stuart, 3 p.m.; Y.M.C.A. Upper Hall, Dundee, Lady Stuart, 8 p.m.

GLASGOW (Central).

Polling Day, Thursday, December 8.
Candidates.—Hon. C. S. Dickson (C.), Prof. A. P. Murison (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—502, Sauchiehall Street.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Barbara Wyllie.
Result in 1910.—C., 6,713; L., 8,058.—Maj., 655.
Polling will be over by the time this week's paper is published.

The open-air meetings held daily during the dinner hour and in the evenings have attracted large and sympathetic audiences. The hall meetings in Langside, Bearsden, and Paisley were also crowded. The elephant which appeared in the streets on Monday and during the week, advertising Miss Pankhurst's meeting and displaying on his howdah the W.S.P.U. electioneering poster, aroused great excitement and remark.

JARROW.

Polling Day, Thursday, December 8.
Candidates.—Godfrey Palmer, M.P. (L.), James Kirkley (C.), A. G. Cameron (Lab.).
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Annie Williams.
Result in 1910.—L., 4,805; Lab., 4,818.—Maj., 67.

LEICESTERSHIRE (East, or Melton).

Polling Day, Wednesday, December 7.
Candidates.—Col. C. B. Tate (C.), Major Dunne (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—276, Belgrave Gate.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Dorothy Pethick.
Result in 1910.—L., 7,748; C., 7,625.—Maj., 123.

SHEFFIELD (Hallam).

Polling Day, Wednesday, December 7.
Candidates.—Rt. Hon. C. B. Stuart-Wortley (C.), Arthur Neal (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—45, Marlborough Road, Sheffield.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Adela Pankhurst.
Result in 1910.—C., 6,181; L., 5,965.—Maj., 216.

Work to do.

In the constituencies which still remain to poll the W.S.P.U. are inviting the electors to vote against the Liberal nominee. They do so because during all the five years in which it has been in power the Liberal Government has persistently put its veto on a Woman Suffrage measure, and has also used violence towards the women who were fighting the battle for their freedom. Those who vote for the Liberal candidate are voting for a continuance of this policy. Those who vote against him are giving their vote on behalf of the women.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE (Wisbech).

Polling Day, Wednesday, December 14.
Candidates.—Hon. Nell Primrose (L.), Lord Robert Cecil (C.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—White Lion Temperance Hotel.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Grace Roe.
Result in 1910.—L., 5,279; C., 5,079.—Maj., 209.
Before the next issue of Votes for Women the result of the campaign in this constituency will be known. Large and enthusiastic meetings have been addressed by Mrs. Pankhurst in every centre in this division and greatest sympathy has been shown on all sides. At Wisbech on Monday night the Selwyn Hall was packed with an appreciative audience who listened with rapt attention to Mrs. Pankhurst, while Lady Isabel Margeson addressed a large overflow meeting in an adjoining hall, and hundreds still remained outside (see p. 171). Open-air speakers are still needed, the constituency being largely composed of scattered villages. A very large number of meetings are being addressed by Lady Isabel Margeson, Miss Isabel Seymour, and others. A few of the indoor meetings already arranged are given below.
Thursday, Dec. 8.—Wimington Parish Hall, Mrs. Pankhurst, 8 p.m.; Doldham School Room, Mrs. Pankhurst, 6.30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 9.—Doddington School Room, Mrs. Pankhurst, 6.30 p.m.; Chatterton Open Exchange, Mrs. Pankhurst, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 10.—March, Public Hall, Mrs. Pankhurst, 8 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 12.—Whitch, Selwyn Hall, Mrs. Pankhurst, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 13.—Chatterton Hippodrome, Mrs. Pankhurst, 7.30 p.m.; Whitch Open-air Demonstration, 7.30 p.m.; March Open-air Demonstration, 7.30 p.m.

WELCOME BREAKFAST TO 27 PRISONERS.

Nothing Like Militancy!

CORNWALL (Bodmin).
Polling Day, Monday, Dec. 12.
Candidates.—Sir R. Peto-Cox (C.), Isaac Foot (L.).
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Jessie Smith, Grove Park, Bodmin.
Result in 1910.—L., 5,133; L.U., 5,083.—Maj., 50.
A successful open-air meeting was held on Saturday; between 200 and 300 listening attentively to Mrs. Montague, Miss Jessie Smith, and Miss Strangways.

DEVONSHIRE (MIL).
Polling Day, Friday, December 16.
Candidates.—Capt. R. F. Morrison (C.), C. R. Buxton (L.).
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Annie Kenney.
Result in 1910.—L., 5,568; L.U., 5,421.—Maj., 297.

DEVONSHIRE (Torquay).
Polling Day, Monday, December 12.
Candidates.—Col. C. R. Burn (C.), Sir F. Layland-Barrett (L.).
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Annie Kenney, c/o Miss Twist, "Esperanza," Bridge Road, Torquay.
Result in 1910.—L., 5,104; C., 5,093.—Maj., 11.

Polling day is next Monday, Dec. 12. A decorated trap and motor car will drive round the whole constituency, which reaches right from Torquay to Dartmouth, stopping at polling stations all along the line, giving out the election leaflet and selling Votes for Women. A splendid meeting was held at the Theatre Royal on Friday, December 2. Speaker: Miss Decima Moore. Chair: Miss Annie Kenney. The theatre was full, over 25 was taken in ticket money and collection, and great interest was shown. An extensive campaign is organised for next week in Torquay, Brixham, Dartmouth and Paignton. Indoor and open-air meetings are being held, and Mr. Nevins and Mrs. Brailsford have kindly promised to come and speak. Will all those people who are keen on the West of England campaign please send subscriptions to Miss Annie Kenney, Torquay, address, to help pay the election expenses, which are very heavy? Friday, Dec. 9.—Brixham, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m.; Dartmouth, 8 p.m.; Paignton, 8 p.m.; Torquay, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 10.—Paignton, Brixham Hall, H. W. Nevins, 8 p.m.; Brixham, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m.; Dartmouth, 8 p.m.; Paignton, 8 p.m.; Torquay, 8 p.m.

DENBIGH.
Polling Day, Friday, December 9.
Candidates.—Hon. W. Ormsby Gore (C.), G. C. Rees (L.).
Organiser.—Miss R. Barrett, R.S.O., Bull Hotel, Denbigh.

Work was started here on Wednesday, Nov. 30. The constituency has been well posted with W.S.P.U. election posters, which are attracting a great deal of attention. The towns have been well canvassed with election addresses and leaflets in Welsh, explaining the women's demand. Daily open-air meetings are being held in all the towns, and are well attended. Several prominent local women in the constituency are helping in canvassing and distributing handbills and literature.

ESSEX (South-East).
Polling Day, Monday, December 12.
Candidates.—J. H. M. Kirkwood (U.), J. Burrows (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—High Street, Rayleigh.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. Warren, R.A.
Result in 1910.—L., 11,199; C., 9,288.—Maj., 1,911.

Members are canvassing every house in Rayleigh, Thundersley, Hockley, and Rochford, and hope to extend their operations if sufficient helpers come forward. Will all members and sympathisers who can give any help please call at the Committee Rooms, where also canvassers, paper sellers, and, above all, helpers for the polling booth on Monday are wanted? Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Morris, £2 for election expenses. Further contributions are needed.

HIGH PEAK.
Polling Day, Thursday, December 12.
Candidates.—S. Hill-Wood (C.), O. Pardington (L.).
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. Jennie Baines, c/o Mrs. Harvey, 3, Brookly Place, Buxton.
Result in 1910.—L., 5,912; C., 5,808.—Maj., 108.
Local sympathisers are asked to help by lending motor cars or other vehicles as the constituency is a large and difficult one to work. Helpers of all kinds are needed.

ST. ANDREWS BURGHS.
Polling Day, Saturday, Dec. 17.
Candidates.—Major Anstruther Gray (C.), J. D. Miller (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—5, Ball Street, St. Andrews.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss C. W. Haig.
Result in 1910.—L., 1,507; L.U., 1,460.—Maj., 32.
Crab, Anstruther, &c. are included in the burgh, and as the people do not understand militant tactics and have to be told what they mean, helpers of every kind are needed. They should call at the committee rooms, where there is plenty of work waiting for them.

SOUTHPORT.
Polling Day, Monday, December 12.
Candidates.—Major G. Dalrymple White (C.), Drysdale Westcock (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—25, Nevill Street.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Dora Marden.
Result in 1910.—C., 7,637; L., 7,213.—Maj., 419.

This constituency was one of the Conservative gains at the last election, and the Liberals are now working hard to win back the seat. Chalkers, bill distributors and general helpers are wanted. Meetings are being held at Waterloo, Grosley, Formby, Freshfield, Alncliffe, Birkdale, Blonwick, High Park, Mereside, Churchtown, Crossways, Thornton and Banks. The constituency stretches over twenty-one miles, and is difficult to work. Workers are asked to come forward to help at the various meetings to-morrow (Saturday), and to help in picket duty on polling day. Waterloo is being canvassed, and leaflets given to the electors by local members. Meetings are being held there. Any member who can give a few hours to canvassing should call at Mrs. Halls, Glenamoor, Waterloo Park, where she will be given leaflets and instructions.
Saturday, Dec. 10.—Cambridge Hall, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 8.30 p.m.

It was quite like old times, everyone was saying at the Welcome Breakfast to released prisoners given at the Criterion Restaurant on Wednesday morning. This happy phrase was merely the Suffragettes' way of expressing in commonplace the deep things which all feel, but which all meet with a gay courage. That after all the fighting and all the suffering of the past five years the woman's cause should still demand from noble women the sacrifice of going into a prison as a criminal, this was the grim truth hidden under the words "It's just like old times!"

Well, if prison and its attendant horrors are still necessary, the women are ready one after another the released prisoners testified to their gladness in going and to their readiness to go again. The spirit roused in the women of the W.S.P.U. is unconquerable, a fact which the authorities are surely beginning to recognise. Another point in most of the speeches showed that the prisoners realised deeply that the way had been made easy for them by the pioneers who had suffered so much and won better treatment for political prisoners; if they, however, had less to suffer actually in prison, they had had harder sufferings before arrest in the shameful battles of November 18 and November 22. The meeting heard with the greatest indignation that Miss Davison and Miss Bell were reported to be undergoing the torture of forcible feeding in the guise of "hospital treatment."

Several prisoners spoke of the great joy and comfort it gave them to hear the "Marseillaise" played by friends outside the prison.

After Mrs. Pethick Lawrence had read various messages of sympathy to an audience numbering over 250, Mrs. Ayrton spoke.

MRS. HERTHA AYRTON'S SPEECH.

I have no words to tell you how proud I am to have been chosen to preside on this occasion, and to tender to those women who have been incarcerated in the cause of liberty the thanks, not only of the women who are in this movement, but the thanks of the whole world of women—anti—as well as pro-Suffragists, because in the days when we shall have won victory and have our freedom our anti-sisters will rise up and call us blessed, just as much as those who have been in the cause.

And I congratulate you, all those who have been in prison, not upon your release, but upon your having been in prison. This is a very great honour, and I want to say that I fully realise, we all fully realise, that every single woman who has ever gone to prison in this cause has been the one woman who ought never have gone to prison! Her friends and relatives have all told her that although everybody else might go to prison there were special reasons why she in particular should stay out!

Black Friday.

It is just as well to review one's forces now and then, and to see what really has happened. First of all, on Friday—that historic Friday, November 18—a perfectly peaceful series of deputations went to the House of Commons to request to see the Prime Minister. Now, from time immemorial it has been perfectly lawful and right for those who have no representation in Parliament to send deputations to those responsible for the government of the country. We had every right to go to the House of Commons, and we kept within the prescribed limits, because no deputation had more than thirteen members. How were we greeted? We were greeted by hundreds of policemen, who first of all walked calmly by our sides, but who, when we got near to the House of Commons, began the tactics which had been instilled into them by the Home Secretary, the policemen in uniform and those in plain clothes squeezing the women, as one policeman said, like jam in a sandwich. Not only this, but after twenty-nine women had arrived at the Houses of Parliament the remainder of the women were used as footballs by the policemen and the roughs, and you all know how they were treated.

British Press Not Free.

Now, in a free country, with what is called a free Press, one would have imagined that this would have come to the ears of the public and that they would have known what had taken place. But the free Press of England is not a free Press! It is not it is true, persecuted, but it is bought, and therefore it is no more free than the Press of Russia and the reason

why it is not free is because the men in it are the creatures of the various political parties. Then on Tuesday, when we heard what was the Prime Minister's pronouncement about Woman Suffrage, we all knew how much it was worth, and again a perfectly peaceful deputation went to Downing Street to tell Mr. Asquith what we thought of him.

The women were again met by police and treated even worse than on Friday, and you in the fighting line all know what took place then.

The Magnificent Spirit of the Women.

These are the forces that are against us: a corrupt Government, a corrupt Press, and an ignorant public. What are the forces that are upon our side? First and foremost is the magnificent spirit that moves all of you and all the women in this movement. Next, we have some men of imagination and sympathy, who are with us, and all honour to them. Then we have in Mrs. Pethick Lawrence the most perfect treasurer in the world. In Miss Christabel Pankhurst we have all that youth and energy and enthusiasm can supply, added to an instinct, an insight in political matters which very few of the statesmen of the world have possessed. And to speak about Mrs. Pankhurst, I think I must tell you a little more of what went on at the House of Commons on the 18th. When we had assembled there every member of the deputation who happened to know a member of Parliament sent in a message telling him to come out and speak with us. Then Mrs. Pankhurst began to talk to them, and the first member who came out said, "You know, there is not the faintest chance of Viscount Castlereagh's Amendment coming on; the whole feeling of the House is entirely against it." Mrs. Pankhurst said, "Is there not a single man in the House of Commons, one who can stand up for us, who will make the House see that the Amendment must go forward?" Member after Member came out, and Mrs. Pankhurst spoke to him with firmness, with dignity, with courage, with insight, such as very, very few leaders of any great movement ever possessed; and as I heard her and saw the happening of that day I was more and more impressed with the great woman that we have in our leader. As time went on the tone of the Members changed. After Mrs. Pankhurst had spoken to each one, they went away in a very different mood, and by-and-by we heard that Viscount Castlereagh's Amendment was being put, and not only that, but that for a whole hour or more the House was entirely taken up with our question. The men's Veto question had gone out of ken; our veto question had come to the front, and the whole of that was due to Mrs. Pankhurst. I felt that to be behind a leader like that is to live.

Most people, and nearly all politicians, are like children walking backwards. Their eyes are so fixed upon the past that they have already been trodden, that they have no power left to observe that which is ahead of them, or that which is beside them, and so they often knock their heads against brick walls. Mrs. Pankhurst, on the other hand, has her eyes steadily fixed on the future, and her vision is clear. And we, who also are looking in the future, but whose vision is dimmer, follow her, and will follow her to the death or to victory.

BRIEF SPEECHES FROM THE PRISONERS.

Several of the prisoners then spoke. Mrs. Gennie Ball, a working woman of Birmingham, said it was her first imprisonment, and she would be proud to go on.

Miss Mabel Capper, of Manchester, described the conditions which Suffrage prisoners now enjoy, won for them by the sufferings of others—the right of wearing their own clothes, buying their own food, exercising together, and holding intercourse. As the militant tactics had succeeded in prison, they were succeeding outside. She reported that Miss Davison and Miss Bell were being forcibly led, upon which their comrades had refused to go to chapel as a vote of censure on the chaplain for permitting such atrocities.

Miss Grace Chappelow (of Hatfield Pevers), whose Huguenot and Chartist ancestry was referred to, said that Suffragettes were compelled by an unknown force to carry out anything and everything, even the dreadful ordeal of speaking at breakfast. She was ready for anything that might come.

Mrs. Farmer amused the audience by telling how the prison nurse who dressed her bruises had said it was unkind of the Suffragettes to come there in such numbers!

Miss Margaret Fison (Ipswich) declared herself ready to go to prison as many times as Mrs. Pankhurst would allow her.

Miss Ellison Gibb (Glasgow) referred to her

ancestor, transported for working for universal suffrage (including Woman Suffrage), and declared Scotland to be ready to do all it could.

Miss Janet Green expressed her gratitude to those who had gone before and made the way easy; the prisoners got all the honour and glory, but she realised that it was often much harder to do the quiet work.

Miss Ethel Haslam brought a message from Nurse Piffeld, who was still in prison and not afraid of anything.

Nurse Hodgkinson (Birmingham) made a fine speech, in which she referred to her "baptism of fire." She was thankful for her self-respect's sake that at last it had been possible for her to make this protest. Had she not taken part in the deputations she would not have believed it possible for such things to have happened. She had been knocked about for hours on both days. She had thought she could never throw a stone, but she saw it was the last protest left to make. She was proud that the nursing profession was so well represented in the militant movement.

Miss Margaret Left said the call would come sooner or later to everyone. It was a baptism which all should undergo.

Miss Pease, a nurse, described prison as a forcing-house for consumption.

Miss Linscott, Miss Fanny Radcliffe, Miss Wingrove, and Miss Helen Piffeld also spoke. The other prisoners released were Miss Laura Armstrong (Newcastle), Mrs. Edith Begbie (London), Miss E. M. Fagg (London), Mrs. Caprina Fahey (London), Mrs. Howard Hall (Birmingham), Miss Fanny Holwell (Manchester), Miss Georgina Macrae (Edinburgh, Kent), Mrs. Beatrice Martin, Miss Lilias Mitchell (Edinburgh), Miss Elsie Schuster (Sheffield), Miss Eliza Simmons (London), and Miss Ethel Slade (Lancashire).

MISS CHRISTABEL PANKHURST'S SPEECH.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst said in the course of her speech:—You know how happy we are to see you with us; the one sad thing is that some are left behind. Above all, we feel for those who have thought it well to resort to the hunger strike, and are now going through the very agonising and humiliating process of forcible feeding. We must now consider what can be done with regard to this matter, because we feel it very important that these two brave women should be rescued from the position in which they are now. You have regained your liberty, dear prisoners, just as the General Election is at its height. We are hoping that as a result of this election our enemy will be weaker than it has ever been before. But we promise the Liberals that even should their majority be increased they will not find that their power to resist this movement has increased at all. We are feeling very hopeful and confident with regard to the work of the coming months. The trouble which we have been able to give the Government during the last few weeks is but a dim forecast of what we have in store for them! We have opened a deputation list, and a number of women have already sent in their names. By one post yesterday three of the veterans who were in the last deputation volunteered for the next one—Mrs. Saul Solomon, Mrs. Brackenbury, and Mrs. Monck Mason. We find that the veterans of this Votes for Women movement are leading the way. I think I have Mrs. Ayrton's permission to tell you that she is ready for the next deputation also. We want a thousand women. That will, we hope, be quite sufficient to finish this battle.

We are going to get votes next session, and we are going to put on all the pressure we can; we are going to pile everything on; we are going to spend our last ounce of energy, our last penny of money; we are going to do everything that can humanely be done, and more than that, to get the vote next session. It is a golden opportunity; the situation is going to be unique. Let us rise to the occasion, and let us show what women can do. Those splendid women who are out of Holloway to-day and those who are still inside have struck the key-note.

Militancy a Magnificent School.

Ladies, the truce was all very well, but there is nothing like militancy! We glory in this fight because we feel how much it gives to us, how much it strengthens us. When we have got the vote this militant movement cannot exist in the form in which it exists to-day, so let us make the most of it while we have the opportunity. We fight to win, but we appreciate the battle while it goes on, because we know it is a magnificent school, and for the rest of our life we shall be stronger than we were before because of the trial that we are now going through. We delight in this battle; we rejoice in it. I do not think the Government can say as much. We do not lose by the continuance of this struggle, so long as we are doing our duty every minute of the time.

We shall make great demands upon you when the work begins again. We hope you will take advantage of the breathing space which the Cabinet Ministers will take care to have, to fill yourselves with strength, so that you may be ready to do your utmost for your great cause when the new campaign begins.

I thank you, dear prisoners, on behalf of those of us at Clements Inn who have felt how much the cause was advanced by your tremendous courage and loyalty. After all, the best-made plans would come to naught if you were not there ready with the utmost devotion and bravery to carry them into effect. We are profoundly grateful to you, and we are glad to see you all here this morning looking so determined for future action.

WHY I STRUCK AT MR. CHURCHILL.

By Hugh Arthur Franklin.

When a man is responsible for having women knocked about and physically injured by others—when, in addition, he insults them to their face and slanders them behind their back—he deserves a whipping. When a man causes other men to be brutally used and slanders them by statements which he knows to be false, he also deserves a whipping. And if the man who does both these things can't be punished by the ordinary course of law, then in my opinion it is time that someone took the law into their own hands.

It was because I held Mr. Churchill guilty on every one of these counts that I determined to punish him in the only way which was open to me.

He Had Caused Women to be Knocked About.

I do not propose to retell the story of the women's deputations of Friday, November 18, or Tuesday, November 22, at both of which I was present. What took place is common knowledge to readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN, but I wish to point out that Mr. Churchill, in giving his instructions, must have foreseen the violence to which the women would be subject. It is so obvious that when an organised and determined army of brave women encounter an enemy who are forbidden to take them prisoners, that enemy must have recourse to physical violence if any resistance is to be offered at all. The police, therefore, however closely they wish to keep within the bounds of their duty, must throw the women back on the mercy of the crowd, the front row of which invariably happens to be composed of plain clothes policemen. Not wearing any official badge, and therefore free from identification, these men behave little better than an East End mob, and no uniformed official ever interferes with their brutal behaviour. Pushes, some blows, and even hard falls are inevitable in such a scuffle—they all come in the day's work; but for the sly digs, pinches, and twists that are unnecessarily given, no man worthy of the name would care to be responsible, nor risk a summons of assault. It must be that orders have been given for this to be done, with a postscript that no fear need be entertained of a prosecution.

When Mr. Churchill, as the chief policeman, orders his thousands of trained servants to become a set of real hooligans, no one is left to act as protectors of law and order. The police cannot do it, because they are taking part in the conflict themselves. There is no one but the general public. And I, as a member of the general public, determined that I would take the one step that was open to me to punish the man who was responsible.

He Has Insulted Women.

On Tuesday, November 22, when practically the whole crowd had cleared away from Downing Street, I encountered Mrs. Cobden Sanderson faint from exhaustion from a struggle in which she had taken part. She is the daughter of the man whom Liberal statesmen profess to honour. But how does Mr. Churchill deal with her? "Turn that woman away! Don't let anyone within here." These are the words he addresses to the police with regard to her. When will Cabinet Ministers know that their position does not give them the right to insult women?

He Has Slandered Women.

Not content with instructing his paid servants to knock women about, and himself insulting women, Mr. Churchill has taken advantage of his position of immunity in the House of Commons publicly to slander a whole class of women. On Thursday, November 24, in answer to a question of Mr. Chancellor, he referred to the women having bitten and scratched the police. For this statement Mr. Churchill has absolutely no foundation. It is a very gross and disgraceful slander, but there is no legal remedy. Was it not time that a step was

taken to bring home to Mr. Churchill that statements of this kind are not to be made with impunity?

He Has Had Men Brutally Used.

It is about time also that a halt should be called to the disgraceful orgies of violence which take place at Liberal meetings whenever a man or a woman raises a voice on behalf of Votes for Women. Other interruptions are courteously dealt with; the Liberal Press glories in the interruptions of Unionist speakers by "the voice," but for the Suffragist there is to be gross personal violence. I have myself many times experienced this treatment, but it reached a climax in the case of Mr. Hawkins at Bradford, who, for interjecting one remark in the course of Mr. Churchill's speech, was hurled out of the hall, flung down the stairs, and suffered a fractured knee, and then once more flung down the stairs, breaking his leg in a second place and dislocating his ankle. For these scenes Cabinet Ministers are directly responsible; firstly, because it is in consequence of their attitude of refusal that the men or women are ejected at all; and secondly because instead of prohibiting such violence, as they could perfectly well do, they have actually on many occasions approved of it, and even encouraged it.

He Has Slandered Men.

Lastly, Mr. Churchill has not hesitated to slander the men engaged in this agitation by accusing them (without the slightest proof, and in spite of their definite denial) of being paid for their work in connection with woman suffrage. This dastardly trick, which Mr. Churchill has copied from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, would have no chance of success except for the fact (which these men know) that their words are published broadcast, while the flat denial of ourselves is shut out from the public ear. I am informed that it is difficult, if not impossible, to bring home this slander in the law court, and therefore for this also a different sort of remedy had to be found.

(An account of Mr. Franklin's trial at Bow Street will be found on p. 169.)

MEN'S POLITICAL UNION FOR WOMEN'S ENFRANCHISEMENT.

Offices: 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone: City 3104.

Hon. Organising Sec., Victor D. Duval.

A meeting to protest against the slanderous references to members of this Union made by certain Cabinet Ministers will be held at the Caxton Hall on Friday, December 16, at 8 p.m. Speakers will be the Right Rev. A. H. Mathew, V. D. Duval, and Frank Rutter. Reserved seats (1s.); tickets may be obtained at the offices. We understand that our colleague, Mr. Hugh A. Franklin, now undergoing a sentence of six weeks' imprisonment in Pentonville gaol, is being accorded the rights granted by the new regulations. A full account of his trial at Bow Street will be found on another page. Elsewhere will be found reports of protests at Cabinet Ministers' meetings made by members of this Union in London and the provinces. We are glad to announce that the past week has seen a brisk increase in membership, and we give below a list of some new branches, together with the names and addresses of the local hon. secretaries:—

Barnesley and District.—J. Lavin, 54, York Street, Oudworth.

Bradford.—Hird Lord, 10, Carlisle Road, Bradford.

Edinburgh.—A. S. Ballantine, 48, India Street, Edinburgh.

Oxford.—W. H. Crook, 25, Shafton Road, Oxford.

Reading.—L. Greenaway, Checkendon.

Sheffield.—A. E. Peel, 87, St. Philip's Road, Sheffield.

Southampton.—P. A. McMahon, 81, Alma Road, Southampton.

In view of the work to be done all over the country this Union has taken no committee rooms this election, but has concentrated its energy on helping the W.S.P.U. in Battersea, Kennington, Wisbech, and other picked constituencies.

Amounts already acknowledged, £358 1s. 10d.; F. Witty, Esq., £1 1s.; Miss E. MacKenzie, £2; a Member of the W.S.P.U., £1; "Irish Nationalist," 10s. 6d.; Miss F. M. Collier (for Hawkins' Legal Fund), £2 2s.; Leonard Cather, Esq., £5 5s.; Miss Kathie Harris, 5s.; T. Burnett Jones, Esq., £1; Miss Ellen Beck, £5; a Member of the Glasgow Branch W.S.P.U., 5s.; Mrs. Hancock (Hawkins' Legal Fund), £10; Miss S. E. Outram, 10s.; Mrs. Archibald Bennett, £1; P. W. Peacock, Esq., 2s. 6d.; Miss A. L. Durham, 5s.; Mrs. Roberts (Hawkins' Legal Fund), 5s.; Dr. H. B. Hanson and Miss E. M. Hanson (Hawkins' Legal Fund), 10s.; Membership Fees, 14s.—£399 15s. 10d.



OUR POST BOX.

OUR HOLY WAR.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Sir,—I am enclosing a postal order for 5s. for the funds of the W.S.P.U. I suggest that attention be drawn to the object-lesson we in South Wales are receiving of the different treatment meted out to men and women when in opposition to the law. Here our local papers are full of the outrages committed by the colliers on strike, thousands of pounds worth of damage, numbers of horses killed by starvation and flooding underground, and over fifty policemen knocked about and more or less damaged. And in spite of all this not one arrest has been made. The ratepayers are put to the expense of maintaining a large extra body of police and soldiers, while it is no secret they have orders to do nothing. When we turn to the case of voteless women, we see a very different state of things. A peaceful deputation broken up, women knocked about, and long sentences of imprisonment given.—Yours, etc.,

M. CORREY.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Sir,—I am moved to send you a message of condolence and sympathy, and also of hope and encouragement. The future of your enterprise is plain to any thinking man. You women will continue to rebel and, alas! to suffer, and then for very shame the manhood of this country will arise and see that justice is done. To this manhood I now appeal. . . . Would that some English Zola might arise to brush aside all sophistries and expose the shameful traducers of these brave women, and see to it that they be no longer at the mercy of the insolence of officialdom. . . . There is a conspiracy of silence in a large part of the Press, so that young men may not know the truth about this movement. Let them go and inquire for themselves. "Who would be free, themselves must strike the blow." Yes, the women know this full well. Have they not already made the breach; let the young men now carry their banner of the purple, white, and green to victory.—Yours, etc.,

T. PEARSE GANDELL.

Oxford and Cambridge Club,
Pall Mall, S.W.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Sir,—I have been a humble worker for Votes for Women all my life. Will you give me the opportunity of placing on public record my appreciation of and admiration for the women who are doing the militant work. I have lately come more than ever into contact with them, having, among other things, been privileged to give hospitality to many coming from a distance, and this has but intensified the conviction I have always had that they, without exception, belong to our finest types of British womanhood. Brave, devoted, and self-sacrificing, and, in addition, intellectual, refined, and cultured—from the rich society right down to the poor hard-working women living on a pittance—I find them, one and all, inspired by the highest and most unselfish ideals and enthusiasms. Women of this type do not act as they have been lately doing—and, after all, the individual acts are not of a very serious character—without good and sufficient cause. In fact, it is the obstinacy of the present Government which, by refusing continually to settle a perfectly reasonable demand, endorsed over and over again by the House of Commons, is directly provocative of such violence and disorder as have lately occurred. Of course, much of their conduct is "unladylike," in the Mrs. Grundy sense of the word. . . . yet the very same people who denounce their conduct as "unwomanly" (whatever that may mean) encourage their daughters to read history books in which Joan of Arc is held up before them as a heroine and patriot, to say nothing of the fact that she has at last been officially deemed fitted for a place among the hagiology of the Church of Rome. . . . I had begun to fear that that most splendid trait in the British character—viz., the determination to resist injustice and tyranny at any cost and sacrifice—had died out from among us. Evidently this is not so as regards many of our womankind. All honour to them. I am proud to number several prisoners and ex-prisoners among my friends. I pay them this tribute with all the more pleasure that I myself, though of English birth, am purely of foreign race.—Yours, etc.,

M. M. TERRERO.

Rockstone House, Pinner.

Mr. F. W. Bennett, of Leicester, writes to explain, with reference to his action in paying Miss Dorothy Pettibee's fine, that he did this from no personal reasons but because he did not wish that Leicester should lose her services at this critical time, when they were so much needed to expose to the electors the Government's policy towards women.

A THANKSGIVING.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Sir,—I cannot let this glorious thanksgiving pass without expressing to the English women my gratitude to them for their part in our great victory for Votes for Women in this far Western State of Washington on November 8. Our generous western men voted two to one all over the State to enfranchise the women. It was the largest vote ever given an amendment in this State—the most sweeping victory ever given the cause in any State, and it enfranchises 175,000 women. But let me add that the English women's revolution was the beginning of our victory far away here on the Pacific Coast; you so bravely stormed the citadel of injustice, you so generously offered up your ease, your reputation, your very health on the altar of equality that you made the whole world pause to consider the question of human rights. You will surely win! Our victory is but the beginning of yours.—Yours, etc.,

ADELA M. PARKER

(President College Suffrage League of Washington.)

419, Boylston Avenue,
Seattle, Washington.

TWO SENTENCES.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Sir,—I am interested to see in the paper this morning that the magistrate at Bow Street puts Mr. Winston Churchill's window at a higher value than the Home Secretary's person by giving the woman two months' imprisonment for breaking the window and the man six weeks' for trying to horse-whip the Home Secretary.—Yours, etc.,

A. E. GORDON.

16, Daleham Gardens, Hampstead, N.W.
December 6, 1910.

LOT'S WIFE.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Sir,—In all the stream of argument, of firm support, and violent abuse that I have listened to this week one point stands clear in my mind—we must not turn back. The path is difficult, the way beset with obstacles, but we must keep going forward, handing on the torch of a righteous demand. I worked in the quiet methods for over twenty-five years; I am absolutely convinced they were required if only as an argument for stronger measures and their need later; but this moment, when the Press, a section of the public, and some of our friends are against us, is the very one for persistent effort on militant lines. I have never known a deputation after which there was not a burst of hysteria on each stone thrown. I write because I know many worthy persons are distressed in their minds at the late disturbances; they don't look far enough. Let them take heart of grace and read the allegory of Lot's wife.—Yours, etc.,

T. W.

Mrs. Rutler writes that she has secured three new regular subscribers in France to VOTES FOR WOMEN.

A regular reader of VOTES FOR WOMEN writes "One of my converts sends me the following:—'What wicked falsehoods they are telling in the papers about the women! They are handled brutally by the police and the hooligans, and then they discharge them from the court without a hearing or defence of any kind. But some of the truth is ebbing out in *The Times*. The *Daily Chronicle* had to apologise this morning to Captain Gonne for saying he had assaulted a policeman. All he did was to follow one of them and take his number for purposely tripping up a lady. I feel so indignant at the continual perversion of the truth that words fail me. I shall come to blows soon.'"

The following is an extract from a letter sent by a friend to Miss Rock, one of the deputations to the House of Commons last week:—

"At last I am won over, and have great pleasure in enclosing you three membership cards. The brutality of the police and Government, combined, compare so unfavourably with the heroism of the splendid women who are throwing their whole heart and strength into the cause that I haven't the cowardice to hold out any longer. Although I fear I will not be much of a help or honour to the Union, I am determined no longer to be a hindrance. The more I see of the 'Antis', the more convinced I am of their narrowness, and the more ashamed I am of the neutral position I have taken in the great question. How splendid VOTES FOR WOMEN is this week! How indignant it makes one feel with the Press. I do think it a shame that not even one paper can be even fair in the matter."

AFTER THE DEPUTATION.

Mrs. Hertha Ayrton's Views.

MRS. AYRTON AND "THE TIMES."

Mrs. Hertha Ayrton has sent us copies of correspondence which has passed between herself and the editor of the *Times* on the "Battle of Downing Street." Mrs. Ayrton's letters have not been printed in the *Times*, and we gladly give the correspondence publicity.

Sir,—Perhaps you will kindly allow me to correct a few of the inaccuracies that appear in your reporter's account of the Suffragists' march on Downing Street on the 22nd ult. I was marching immediately behind Mrs. Pankhurst when she entered Downing Street, but was prevented from reaching No. 10 by an attempt at strangulation on the part of a policeman. I remained until the whole street and its vicinity were cleared, and I saw all that went on there. Your reporter accuses the demonstrators of hysteria. The only hysteria displayed was that manifested by the police, many of whom were in a state of wild excitement. Now and then a shriek of agony was wrung from a Suffragist by some of the new methods of torture employed by the police (presumably by the orders of the Home Office, with the hopes of terrorising us), such as bending back the thumbs, seizing the throat and bending back the head till the neck was nearly broken, twisting the arms, kicking, etc. Otherwise the women worked in complete silence; and, indeed, they had no breath to spare for other purposes than that of pushing towards their goal, which was No. 10, Downing Street.

Self-controlled, Purposeful, Determined.

Never was a more self-controlled, purposeful, determined and silent body of fighters in a just cause. The "aimless pertinacity," the "hysteria," the "laughter," and the "shrieks"—except of agony—existed in the imagination of your reporter alone. Far from behaving like "demented creatures," during the actual struggle the silence was almost oppressive, broken only by the sharp sound of splintering wood as the police smashed the bamboo poles of the banners. We were of all ages, of all classes, of all temperaments, and we had a single aim—to show the Government that it is impossible to govern even the most helpless without the consent of the governed.—Yours faithfully,

HERTHA AYRTON.

The "Times" Replies.

To this the Editor of the *Times* replied that he had referred Mrs. Ayrton's letter to the reporter who wrote the account, and that he adhered to his report. He saw no brutality on the part of the police, but he heard shrieks and laughter which appeared to him to be due to hysteria. He admitted that in their ejection from Downing Street some of the women were no doubt "incommoded and even hurt."

Mrs. Ayrton's Rejoinder.

Mrs. Ayrton replied:—
Sir,—I have to thank you for your courteous reply to my letter on the Suffragists' march to Downing Street. Your reporter says that he saw no brutality on the part of the police, but I not only saw but experienced it. Twice policemen seized me by the throat and jerked my head back till it felt as if my neck would break, so that I quite lost my breath and half lost consciousness for a time; indeed, had I not been held up by my daughter I must have fallen down and been trampled on as were other women. As, therefore, you have given your reporter's account of what he saw and heard, do you not think it would be fair to give mine also?

Your reporter talked of "aimless" pertinacity, and I reiterate that there was no aimlessness—that every woman was moved by one single, definite and perfectly lawful aim, viz., to go to Downing Street and call upon Mr. Asquith to hear what we thought of his pronouncement on Woman's Suffrage. As we have no legal method of making our opinions known to him publicly, as we had been prevented on Friday from presenting a memorial to him in a perfectly lawful way, this private manner of dealing with the question was the only one open to us. Had we been treated with the most elementary justice we should have gone to his door, our leader would have spoken for us, and we should have quietly dispersed.

"Raids" by the Police.

All the newspapers have talked of "Suffragist Raids," both on Friday, the 18th, and Tuesday, the 22nd. The "raids" were made by the police, under the orders of the Home Office, on us. On both days we were doing that which we had every right to do, but which was inconvenient to the Government, and we were shamefully and brutally obstructed in the performance of our duty, by the orders of the Government.

It is extraordinary to me, sir, that you and men like you cannot see that we women are fighting, in a way that entails all the suffering on ourselves, for our human dignity, for justice, for the freedom which Englishmen are supposed to consider their most precious possession. That we feel about these things exactly as men feel,

you evidently do not believe, and yet we do actually care for them far more than men do in the present day, because for us they are still to come, while men have forgotten the fight they have had to make for them, and in which women helped them.—Yours faithfully,

HERTHA AYRTON.

MY FIRST EXPERIENCE ON A PEACEFUL DEPUTATION.

Having lived most of my life abroad, I have never been on a deputation before, but had heard of the treatment meted out to defenceless women in these deputations (not raids), only, like the Queen of Sheba, I can truly say, "The half was not told me!" We broke no law in going on a deputation, and everything was done in a thoroughly constitutional manner—even to the number being under the regulation "13" that can assemble to see the Prime Minister. As soon as our little band came to the entrance of the House of Commons and had stated our object, without any warning we were suddenly set upon by the police with great violence, and even when we offered no resistance we were repeatedly hurled back amongst a crowd of roughs, who had evidently been collected there on purpose, and who were allowed to further maltreat us, not only with personal violence, but with coarse jests and foul language. We were constantly pushed about, hit, and every indignity was offered us. Why? Merely because we wore the deputation badge! Twice I was knocked down and nearly trampled to death. Even when we were moving on, as soon as our badge was seen we were taken by the shoulders and hurled into the aforesaid crowd of roughs, who hovered around like eagles eager for their prey. I saw a young girl pushed along shrieking, "They are twisting my wrists," but there was no one to help her.

I am relating only what I personally saw and suffered from 1.20 to nearly 6 o'clock. Oh! day of horror! No Russian Cossacks could have been more brutal than a few of the police. I noticed that at every few paces, and near the important gates, were stationed great, powerful men, with ferocious faces, who delighted in their work of hurting all they could the defenceless women and girls, who were only armed with—what? Their deputation scrolls! There they were: 700 stalwart men, besides a troop of mounted horsemen, all called out by the Home Secretary. For what? To prevent a broken-up deputation of women from presenting a paper to Mr. Asquith. Oh! the bravery of it! Oh! the courage! It was a sight to make every true woman's blood boil that such things could be.

After all, no one wanted to deprive a single man of a vote. All that was wanted was that every widow and spinster who paid rates and taxes and had no man to vote for her should have the protection of a vote. How reasonable! I can truthfully say that during those long hours I broke no law, nor did I see any one of that deputation breaking any law, but over and over again I saw the police (under orders) break the law, and allow the roughs to do so, by assaulting the ladies of the deputation. We did not go out "to raid" or to "insult the police," or to break any law, but simply to ask Mr. Asquith to see us and hand in our deputation papers. And this was our treatment—a treatment they would not have dared to give a deputation of men who have votes to give. This just shows how much women want the protection (if nothing else) of a vote! Again and again I said to the police, "If I have broken any law, it is your duty to arrest me; if not, what right have you to assault me?" For answer, one gigantic "anthropoid" (I will not call him a man) shouted, "I'll teach you to come out again like this," and seized me by the shoulders (I can feel his grip yet) and literally flung me off the pavement. I ask, are the men of England going to stand by and see their womenfolk insulted in this manner by the orders of their Government?

Why could not Mr. Asquith have seen us and given us some answer? It would not have taken five minutes of his "valuable time" (not so valuable but that he found time to go to a wedding). It is he and the Home Secretary who are responsible for the degrading scenes of that Friday—scenes which hold England up to the contempt of the foreigner. Over and over again I heard respectable men in the crowd express their indignation and their hope that the Government who ordered such illegal treatment to freeborn but defenceless women should be brought to book.

Under what law is it permitted that such treatment should be meted out to freeborn British subjects—men or women—who do not go out to attack, but are attacked? Let thinking men who have the vote ponder over this in the coming election.

MEM SAHIB.

We learn that it is proposed to confer upon French women the municipal and departmental council franchise. A Bill has been introduced in the Chamber of Deputies with this object, and the Parliamentary Commission appointed to report on the matter submitted its findings to the Chamber on Monday.



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JOHN BRIGHT ON FREEDOM.

When Mr. Winston Churchill framed the new prison rules, the benefit of which the suffragist prisoners enjoy in Holloway to-day, he was careful to insert a clause to the effect that no books of a political character or dealing with current events were to be given to prisoners. That Mr. O'Brien's monograph on John Bright* is likely to fall within this category is clear, for over and over again through the book the policy and action of the militant suffragist is justified. "However," writes the author, when speaking of the Irish Land Bill of 1869—"Mr. Gladstone did . . . under the pressure of Fenianism, rise to the occasion, and we find the same truth—that Governments only yield when goaded—expressed by the great statesman himself."

Nothing has been done for Ireland without violence, said the author on one occasion to Mr. Bright. Yes, was the answer, do not suppose I object to violence; I do not, when it rests on a moral basis.

Again, we have Mr. Bright, speaking of the Irish Reform Bill, saying—

No man, I presume, is of opinion that the Government grappled with the question of Irish representation before it was absolutely necessary to do so.

Mr. O'Brien describes John Bright as "a man who loved justice and freedom, and had faith in the people . . . ever ready to defy the public opinion of his country and advocating what he considered to be the cause of righteousness." That he was as well a great statesman is illustrated by the numerous quotations given from his speeches. John Bright had no patience with those who tried to pacify Ireland by means of coercion. "There is no statesmanship," he reminded the House, "merely in acts of force and of repression."

Later on we find the following:—

I entirely disagree with those who, when any crisis or trouble arises, say that you must first of all preserve order, you must put down all disloyalty and disobedience to the law, you must assert the supremacy of the Government, and then consider the grievances that are complained of. This has been the case in Ireland for 200 years . . . the grievances were not remedied; the demands of the people were not conceded; nothing has been done in Ireland except under the influence of terror.

Again, speaking in 1851, he scornfully pointed to the influence which terror exerts on the Government:

An illustrious member of Sir Robert Peel's Government declared in 1829, he said, that the sole alternative of Catholic emancipation was civil war, and to avert civil war emancipation was granted. Surely it was not a wise Constitution which allowed things to grow to such a pass. The noble Lords' Reform Bill was passed in a hurricane of popular feeling, without which it would not have been passed at all. The situation was helped on by brickbats, the carriages of the noble lords and hon. gentlemen who passed the measures being smashed over and over again in many towns and villages of this country. Surely it was not a perfect Constitution that required the fling of brickbats. . . . I can have no respect for a Constitution or a system of representation or legislation which requires the menace of civil war ere it will grant Catholic emancipation, which must call in the aid of brickbats to enable it to give the Reform Bill.

In view of the efforts of the Suffragists to obtain treatment when in prison as political prisoners, it is interesting to note that in 1867 Mr. Bright presented a petition relating to the Fenians, urging that as political offenders they should be treated "with as much leniency as was consistent with the preservation of order." This petition, while disapproving of Fenianism, Mr. O'Brien says, stated in effect that the Fenian movement itself was produced by English misgovernment in Ireland; adding "That there is legitimate ground for the chronic discontent of which Fenianism is the expression, and therefore palliation for the errors of Fenianism."

There is one passage in the chapter headed "Parliamentary Reform," which with a few trifling alterations might well have appeared as a leading article in VOTES FOR WOMEN. Let our opponents change the year 1860 into 1910, put the name "Mr. Asquith" for "Lord Palmerston," and the "Conciliation Bill" for the "Reform Bill," and then ponder on the following passage:—

There is not a man in the House of Commons who was there in 1860, who knows anything at all of the manner in which Bills and questions are treated there; and there is not a man in the present Cabinet that does not know perfectly well that if Lord Palmerston had said on some one evening in the year 1860 that his Government would stand or fall by the Reform Bill then before the House, that Bill would have passed through the House of Commons without one single effective hostile division.

Space does not allow of my dealing at greater length with this chapter, or of pointing out how the doctrine of Ministerial responsibility is upheld in it, or of dwelling on the other chapters which bring before us such a vivid picture of the troublous times of the Crimean War and the Indian Mutiny, or even of the great Anti-Corn Law agitation, which Mr. O'Brien has dealt with so effectively and so thoroughly.

Suffragettes in Holloway will most certainly not be permitted to read this book, but Suffragettes outside will do well to read and ponder on it, and when they have done so to send certain extracts with their compliments to all Members of the Cabinet!

M. D. H.

DIVIDED COUNSELS IN IRELAND.

Tactics in political warfare always present a difficult problem. There are occasions when conciliatory methods are thoroughly sound; there are others when they are suicidal; there are occasions when "the half loaf" ought to be accepted gladly; there are others when what looks like the half loaf has to be rejected with scorn.

Only those who are fully steeped in the knowledge of the movement itself, and who possess at the same time sound political judgment, are entitled to express an opinion, and the trouble comes when men whose past record seems to justify them in considering that they possess both these qualifications take diametrically opposite views.

In Mr. William O'Brien's recent book, "An Olive Branch

* John Bright: a Monograph. By H. Barry O'Brien. London: Smith Elder, 10s. 6d. net.

in Ireland" (Macmillan and Co., 10s. net), we have a full statement of the tactics of the Irish Party from the author's point of view, commencing with the fall of Parnell and proceeding right up to the present day.

Naturally the principal interest of the book centres in the account which the author gives of the reasons which impelled him to dissociate himself with a few followers from the main body of Irish Home Rulers who acknowledge the leadership of Mr. Redmond. In the forefront of these reasons must be placed, it would seem, a divergence of view upon two important questions: Firstly the working of the Land Purchase Act of Mr. Wyndham; and secondly, the Liberal proposals which were embodied in the Irish Council Bill of 1907. Mr. O'Brien was a "whole-hogger" in accepting the Land Act, and completely opposed to the Amending Bill carried by the Liberal Government, which has had, he says, the effect of stopping land purchase. He was also favourably disposed towards the Irish Council Bill, which was scornfully rejected by the Irish Party. But this divergence by itself would not, he states, have led to his present attitude if it had not been accompanied by a refusal to allow him to state his case and an attempt to drive him and his friends out of political life.

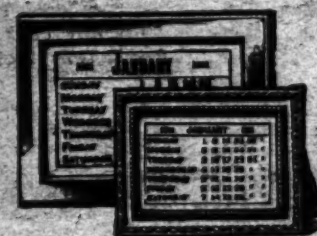
It would, of course, be presumptuous for anyone outside the Irish Home Rule movement to attempt to decide the merits of this controversy, but those whose interest in politics is sufficiently wide to make them wish to study an agitation other than their own will find much food for thought in the volume which Mr. O'Brien has contributed to current political history.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Views of 'Vanoc.'" By Arnold White. London: Kegan Paul. 5s. net.
"The Englishwoman." December. 1s.
"How to Write English." "How to Speak English." Longmans Green. Each 6d. net (paper), 9d. net (cloth).

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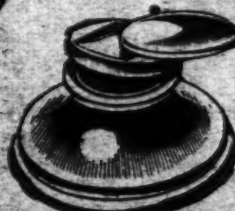


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Frances leaned out of the casement window. It was a cold January day in 1910. The garden, stretching down to a low ivy-covered wall, which sheltered sweet early violets, was just now in the hands of an old man who alternately dug and rested. Now and then, for a change, he blew on his poor, cold old fingers, or spat on the sodden earth. He was very old, his back was very bent, his legs tottered; an ignorant old village man, whose pride was that, being unable either to read or write, he was "as good as those who could." By keeping off the rates he had won his old age pension, and, as he said, "There's a many as reads and writes as hasn't done that."

Frances watched him awhile as he dug, and rested, and spat, and then drew in her head and took up VOTES FOR WOMEN. "That old man will vote," she said to herself. "Emmeline and I pay towards his pension, are ratepayers, householders, workers for a quarter of a century, educated women, law-abiding citizens, and yet we may not help, as he does, to choose the men who make our laws." She put her head out into the cold again. "Daniel!" she cried, "this is polling day. Are you going to vote?" Daniel put down his spade and came to the window. "Yes," he said, "I'll vote." "For whom?" asked Frances. His cunning eyes lit up, and he smiled. "Well," he said, "I've got my Pension, and this Government give it me; and yet I'm Blue. I likes me Pension, yet I likes to be Blue." "Well?" said Frances. "Well, that's it," he said, "that's all." And he tottered back to his digging.

A noisy car, decked with blue ribbons, jerked up at the garden gate. A man in a warm fur-trimmed coat and gloves stepped out, and into the garden, touched the old man on his shoulder, linked a friendly arm into his, and led him to the car. How kindly were his actions! How he tucked in the rug round the poor old legs! How solicitous he was that Daniel should be warm and comfortable and enjoy his ride; and how gaily they whizzed away.

Not a word to Frances! She stood and stared, then she laughed aloud. "They don't even ask if it suits me," she thought, and then, more soberly, "I wonder who that old fool will vote for?"

Two hours passed. The car came back and the old man stepped out. The man in the fur-trimmed coat shook hands with him like an old friend, and smiled on him. "Good-bye, Mr. Clifford," he said, "Good-bye," and Daniel, looking after the blue-trimmed car and its well-dressed driver, said slowly, "Well, good-bye, Guy'nor."

Down came Frances. "Well?" she inquired. "Well, Daniel?" "I've voted," said Daniel. "How?" "Blue," with a sly look upwards. "Are you Blue?" "Yes; I'm Blue," said Frances, "but don't you ever tell the other mistress that you're Blue, because she's Yellow, and might have something to say." "Yaller," said Daniel. "Yaller. Well, it's the Yallens that give me me Pension. I've nothing against Yallens."

Half an hour later he was drinking his hot tea and eating his buttered toast by a blazing kitchen fire, and Frances, in her gentle way, was ministering to his creature comforts. But the old man looked serious, and with womanly insight into the strange ways of old men she knew something was wrong.

"Are you cold, Daniel?" "No, I'm not cold." "Hungry?" "No, I'm not hungry." And then, "Fact is, mum, there ain't no need to tell 'tother lady how I've voted. My way of voting ain't naught to do with no one, and I've voted Blue, and you're Blue, and that's all." "Oh, yes, that's all; there's no need to say any more." And the old man seemed comforted.

Next day Emmeline ("tother lady") always direct, charged down on Daniel with a directness he had never felt before. "How did you vote, Daniel?" she asked, and he, quailing and feeling her to be twice as large and powerful as he had ever felt her before, was for a moment morally a coward, and in that moment replied, "I've voted Yaller."

A week later, Frances and Emmeline, hunting for violet buds in the shelter of the old wall, paused suddenly, for they heard voices.

"Well, Daniel," cried a cheery voice, "You've voted, and for the best man, I hope; we want all the best men now."

"I've put my cross," said Daniel, "against the longest name—that's how I've voted."

He moved away, and the owner of the cheery voice put his head over the wall, and smiled down at the two ladies. "Then he's voted Yellow," he said. "He went in a Blue car, and voted Yellow, and isn't sure now which he's done."

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VOTES FOR WOMEN

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1910.

DELIVERANCE TO THE CAPTIVES.

We rejoice in the return to the fighting ranks of some of our brave prisoners of war. They come back to the field of action baptised from the experiences through which they have recently passed. They come back renewed in strength to find fresh evidences on every hand of the steady advance of our forces upon the citadel of power held by the enemies of human freedom.

There yet remain in prison thirty-six women, sentenced for one month or for two months for their brave protest against a great wrong, a protest which was made at the small cost of a few panes of glass worth some shillings, and at the great cost of pain and sacrifice to themselves. Also in Pentonville Jail there is one man who dared to refute, in the only way open and possible to him in these times of deliberate misrepresentation and Press boycott, the cowardly slander uttered by the Home Secretary with intention to defame the character of the men and women in this Movement.

This man and these women are honoured to-day by those who understand the real significance of their action. In days to come that action will be fully vindicated. In neither case was physical violence their motive. The women, determined to avoid any chance of doing injury to persons, waited until it was dark and then threw their messages, which could reach their rulers by no other way, through the unlighted windows of their houses. The man was aware that Cabinet Ministers are surrounded by a body-guard of detectives and police, and that he would be arrested for his attempt to administer the chastisement that by all the unwritten laws of social morality was richly deserved. Nevertheless, he took the first public opportunity that offered, of showing by deeds, since words were futile, that the sense of honour and of chivalry is not yet dead in the hearts of men. For technical offences and not for any violation of the moral law have these women and this man been punished.

The real criminals, as it often happens in this strange world, have not been brought to the bar of human justice. The stories of the assaults made upon

hundreds of women on Black Friday have been hushed up. Women know, their doctors know, the Home Secretary knows, and the police know what happened. The public has been kept in total ignorance. Mr. Churchill took care that the facts should not come out in the police-court, when he refused to give an opportunity to the women and the men who had been arrested to make any statement in Bow Street on the following morning.

The Government is fighting the battle against women's liberty by methods of brutality. Many of their agents are fighting it as far as women are concerned by methods that are unspeakable. They trust to the darkness to cover them, they trust to the conspiracy of silence which seems so secure, they believe they run no risk, that no punishment will be theirs because nobody will know.

Nobody will know because women are politically gagged and bound. They are gagged because not only are they denied the power of the vote given to every class of men wherewith to enforce the demand for the redress of grievances, but also by every other means that can be employed against them they have been put to silence. The Bill of Rights has been torn up and flung in their faces and the ancient liberty granted to voter and voteless alike of presenting a memorial or a petition to their rulers has been taken from them. They are shut out from public meetings where new legislation affecting them as vitally as men is discussed by Ministers of the Crown maintained by women taxpayers as well as by men.

They are also, for reasons of Party interest, shut out from the Press. Thus all channels of expression are closed to them. Driven into revolt as the only means of resisting wrong, they, together with those men who are fighting this battle for human liberty, are met with ruthless repression.

Consider the sentence of six weeks' imprisonment passed upon Mr. Hugh Franklin as a punishment for his attempted assault upon the Home Secretary, by whose order women exercising their legal right were assaulted on 18th November. Contrast it with the verdict given in two typical cases of aggravated assault of men upon weak and defenceless women, briefly reported a few days ago in the morning papers. The first is taken from *The Morning Advertiser* of November 24.

William Smith, 32, tailor, Great Titchfield-street, W., was charged on remand with assaulting his wife, also with attempting to stab her. The evidence of Mrs. Smith, a respectably-dressed young woman, showed that about eleven o'clock on the night of the 15th inst., the prisoner arrived at his lodgings, and asked his wife to give him money. On her refusing, he struck her in the mouth and knocked her down. He then picked up a table knife, and tried to cut her throat with it. A man, named Futeher, who was in the room, took the knife away from him. It was mentioned that the accused had threatened his wife on many occasions, and that she had obtained a separation order from him. He (Mr. Denman, the Magistrate) did not think he could rival a woman in giving a lecture (laughter), so he would not give one to the prisoner, but would bind him over in the sum of £10 to keep the peace for twelve months.

And the second from *The Times* of November 16, the case being before Mr. Justice Darling.

Percy Richmond, 21, porter, was indicted for wounding Edith Richmond, his wife, with intent to murder or to do her grievous bodily harm. On the evening of November 8, the prisoner came up behind his wife in the street, and with some sharp instrument inflicted a wound on her throat three inches long, which, the doctor said, just by a hair's breadth missed the jugular vein. A pair of scissors was found in his pocket. Mr. Justice Darling said he was not going to send the prisoner to penal servitude or to prison. He released the prisoner on recognisances to be of good behaviour, and to come up for judgment if called upon.

Such cases as these are of daily occurrence. But few of them are reported. Now and then the unheeding world hears from afar off a faint echo of the cry that goes up to the heavens from the deep gulf of woman's misery and woman's shame, "How long, O Lord! how long!" We have heard this cry, and our hearts have caught the answer: "Until My Messenger comes speaking My word of deliverance with human lips. Until the price of your liberty has been paid in human suffering and human life. Until human hands are stretched out to lift you up!"

That day has dawned. From the prisons of Holloway and Pentonville there comes the message of hope, the promise of deliverance to the most cruelly wronged and oppressed of all the human race. From behind those barred windows there streams out to the world a great light, and a voice is heard from within the grim walls speaking as of old: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; because He hath anointed me to preach good tidings; He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted; to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind and to set at liberty them that are bruised."

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

HECKLING CABINET MINISTERS.

Ludicrous Precautions.

Scarcely have the Suffragettes begun militant methods again than the most exaggerated and ludicrous precautions are taken to protect Cabinet Ministers. Yet the Voice is heard! The following accounts speak for themselves:—

MR. ASQUITH AT NEWCASTLE.

The Prime Minister was not allowed to leave Newcastle last Saturday without hearing more than he probably liked of Votes for Women. At the Drill Hall he had hardly mentioned the question of the Lords' veto when a member of the Men's Political Union asked, "Why did you veto the Conciliation Bill, Mr. Asquith?" The questioner was immediately held down and gagged, while Mr. Asquith, quickly changing the subject, proceeded to compliment the two Liberal candidates on their staunch Liberalism. "You're no Liberal!" I shouted out immediately; "you vetoed the Woman Suffrage Bill." After a fierce altercation with the stewards, I kept my seat, till a third man interjected, "Why did you put a veto on the Women's Bill?" After a struggle we were both removed, but meanwhile a fourth interruption occurred. Amid the cheers of those surrounding him a man sprang to his feet and waved in the air a purple, white, and green "Votes for Women" flag. The uproar was tremendous, and the standard-bearer made quite a speech, fragments of which only were audible in the tumult. This lasted for at least ten minutes, and when order had once more been restored Mr. Asquith hurriedly finished his speech in five minutes to avoid further questioning. The standard-bearer who made such a splendid protest is a newly recruited member of the M.P.U., who had never before attended a Cabinet Minister's meeting. A. S. B.

At Burnley.

When the Prime Minister visited Burnley on Monday, December 8, the most absurd precautions against the Suffragettes were taken. It was publicly announced that he was to arrive at a certain station, and be officially welcomed. The approaches were barricaded, and detachments of police were everywhere in the neighbourhood. The Suffragettes, however, were better informed, and when, at the quiet wayside station, Mr. Asquith and his detectives alighted, to his surprise he was met by the women. A little group of Liberal women were also on the platform. The Suffragettes took the Prime Minister by the arm asking, "Why don't you take your veto off the House of Commons?" and "How dare you call yourself a Liberal?" The Prime Minister, who collided with some railings in his agitation, looked very foolish and gave no reply. The women were eventually seized by detectives, and in the mêlée Mr. Asquith, being unable to distinguish friend from foe, caught hold of a Liberal woman who was trying to protect him, and pushed her away, calling feebly, "Here's another!" Pursued by cries of "You are a disgrace to your country, sir!" and "The women are ashamed of you!" the party then entered motor-cars and drove away amid shouts of "Traitor!" "Coward!" Everyone turned out to see the Suffragettes, 150 of whom, led by Mrs. Pankhurst, were supposed to have arrived, and "Votes for Women" and not "Down with the Lords" was the talk of the town.

MR. CHURCHILL AT SHEFFIELD.

Never has a more ludicrous exhibition of Liberal cowardice been given than at Sheffield on Wednesday, November 30, on the occasion of the Home Secretary's visit. The whole force of the local constabulary was called into requisition to guard the two halls where Mr. Churchill was speaking. Series of barricades were erected, surrounding the halls from a distance of over 100 yards. And while police, mounted and on foot, aided by a strong detachment of detectives from London, awaited with trepidation the terrible Suffragette raid which Liberal fears and guilty consciences had imagined, Miss Adela Pankhurst at the other end of the town was quietly holding a drawing-room meeting, and explaining to her interested audience some of the much-needed reforms women might effect when they had secured the vote.

Formed up in a queue three abreast ticket holders had to pass four police-guarded barriers before they arrived at the entrance door to the Drill Hall. After they had passed the last barrier, one at a time, they were inspected outside the entrance by five constables, inside the entrance by five constables and two or three plain-clothes men from London, and then gingerly passed through an army of stewards to their seats. Yet all these precautions were futile, and the "Voice," which so delights Liberals when heard at Conservative meetings, again made itself audible on the question of Woman Suffrage.

Panic was in the air. Mr. Churchill began his speech by alluding to the "panic-fear" of the Opposition, who a year ago had summoned the "backwoodsmen" in the Lords "to stand between the nation and a Socialistic scheme that would ruin our trade and shake our Empire."

"And you'll ruin the women if you don't give them votes," said the Voice, in broad Yorkshire. Immediate uproar ensued, frenzied Liberals frantically yelling "Out him!" and jumping on their seats to watch the police descend on the first of the Suffragettes.

Mr. Churchill reviewed the past history of the Upper House, and then dramatically proceeded: "A year has gone, and with it a marvellous, silent, irresistible revolution has been in progress." "An' that's votes fur wimmen," came another voice from the back of the hall. Greater and more prolonged uproar ensued, as the sturdy Yorkshireman and a friend who defended him were dragged from the building. "There was a free fight," says the *Times*, "before the man was got out and order was restored."

When hysterical Liberals had resumed their

seats Mr. Churchill implored them to "pay no attention. They only do it to disturb you and annoy. We are here to transact important public business, and not to watch such silly antics." It is significant, however, that he did not a third time repeat his slanderous suggestion that Suffragist interruptions were "money-fed."

At least ten men, one of them a clergyman, who was understood to remonstrate with the stewards, were ejected for pertinent interjections about Votes for Women. But when Mr. Churchill boasted that under the Liberal Government there had been no bloodshed, and a voice shouted "What about the riots in Wales?" that interrupter was not ejected. Neither was the man ejected who met one of Mr. Churchill's gibes at the peers with the cry "What about the Duke of Marlborough?" What further testimony is needed as to the state of the Liberal conscience?

F. R.

At the Albert Hall, Sheffield.

Despite the elaborate precautions, "enough to meet a German invasion," as the *Sheffield Telegraph* said, two members of the W.S.P.U. were among the audience at the Albert Hall and succeeded in reminding Mr. Churchill of his broken pledges in connection with Votes for Women. The rough handling they received when ejected stirred a constitutional Suffragist present into action, and when the Home Secretary had the effrontery to declare that the Liberal claim was "one of simple right and justice," she could be silent no longer, and called out "What about the women?" As this lady was a well-known Liberal worker, and had, indeed, been President of a branch of the Liberal Women's Federation, the diplomatic Home Secretary at once protested at her ejection. "Don't turn her out," Mr. Churchill shouted, excitedly. "I think, ladies and gentlemen, that the women will get the vote when they have persuaded the men of the country." The lady explained that the men of the country by their elected representatives in two successive Parliaments had given their consent to Woman Suffrage, and when officious stewards again moved towards her, Mr. Churchill again shouted "Don't turn her out! Don't throw anybody out! Don't let us have any unpleasantness, because if the lady wants to interrupt me I am quite willing to sit down. Let us have a nice pleasant meeting this evening, and nobody turned out at all. On the contrary, instead of turning people out, what we want is to turn five Liberal members in."

An Amusing Press View.

The *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* thus describes the visit of the Home Secretary to Sheffield on Wednesday in last week:—

CHURCHILL'S VISIT—GREAT SUFFRAGETTE HOAX—LIBERALS SCARED BY A SHADOW—POLICE AND BARRIERS AGAINST NOTHING—MEN THROWN OUT OF DRILL HALL.

"Sheffield Liberals made themselves look very ridiculous last night over the visit of Mr. Winston Churchill to address a couple of meetings in the city. Yesterday ought to have been April the First instead of November 30 and Mr. Churchill's birthday. In some remarkable way the Liberals had frightened themselves into the belief that their champion would be assaulted by half the women in Sheffield. To prevent this they observed the strictest secrecy with regard to Mr. Churchill's movements. No one was allowed to know when he would reach Sheffield. They got all the roads round the Drill Hall, where he was to speak first, closed against the public. They got the police to erect barricades. They called out practically every constable in the city, from Commander Scott down to the latest recruit who had only just got into a uniform. People going to the meetings were put to the greatest possible inconvenience. They could not move anywhere in the neighbourhood of the two halls without running up against a policeman. Constables stood in long, deep, silent rows across the streets. When you got beyond them there were still policemen in twos and threes only a yard or two apart. In every dark corner there was a policeman. Men had almost to prove on the spot the day and year of their birth, their nationality and occupation before they could pass any of these groups of constables. Before the doors, at the doors, inside the doors, along the passages, in the hall, among the people—everywhere there were policemen. Never before in the history of the Sheffield Police Force have so many of the men been brought on duty for nothing."

"Who Trusts the People?"

"For the whole thing was a hoax—a splendid bit of First of April fooling. It is doubtful whether the 200 odd policemen who kept the barricades and surrounded the halls so much as saw the shadow of a Suffragette. The whole display was a delightful commentary on the 'Trust the People' cries of the Liberals."

"When the Conservative meetings were smashed up last night after last January by organised bands of Liberals the Conservatives were expected to grin and bear it. But the Liberals, because someone, somewhere, somehow, said he thought the Suffragettes might disturb the Liberal meetings, called out the police force of the city with barricades and an army of stewards to suppress interrupters."

"Are we in England?" asked an astonished

citizen as he came out of the Albert Hall and saw the long lines of policemen guarding the empty pavement. The scene certainly suggested anything but the 'free country' of which the Liberals boast. Citizens may be tempted to also ask—Who will pay the bill for this First of April display of unnecessary force? Must the Conservative ratepayers pay their share?

"Hysterics at the Drill Hall.

"At the Drill Hall three men raised their voices in the meeting with the usual cry of 'Votes for Women.' It was amazing to see the hysterical way the crowds of Liberals, protected by the crowds of policemen, and the army of stewards, behaved. At the first shout Liberals sprang to their feet, jumped on to the chairs, and yelled to their civic defenders to 'Out him.' Each of the three men was bundled out almost as soon as he spoke. At the Albert Hall meeting two women raised a similar cry, with similar results. But there was no organised attempt to disturb the meeting."

"Miss Adela Pankhurst, the leader of the Suffragettes in Sheffield, declared last night that she was amazed by the terrible display of brute force brought out against a few weak women. All the same it was a tremendous compliment, and she had enjoyed the joke of seeing such big lines of policemen everywhere."

"There was a double line of stalwart police officers stretched across from the carriage door at which Mr. Churchill alighted to the gate giving access from the station to the side door of the Victoria Hotel, and through this protecting line Mr. Churchill quickly passed. As the train was brought to a standstill, Mr. Churchill was welcomed by Sir William Clegg, Mr. Arthur Neal, and Mr. Howard Wilson, and these passed across the platform and the line of rails intervening between this and the hotel. By this surreptitious and stealthy means the Home Secretary of England had to be smuggled into Sheffield. The party remained at the hotel for a little over an hour, dinner being served. During this period the hotel was surrounded by police, but no designing ladies disturbed the Minister's dinner party by even a shout. Then shortly before 7.30 several swift motor-cars came on the scene, and in these Mr. Churchill and his party were whirled by Sheep Street, Glanville Street, Queen's Road, Edmund Road, and Lancing Road to the Drill Hall. All along the route there were few people to be seen; the route having been a well-guarded secret."

Mr. Churchill was proceeding, when a man suddenly cried out: "Why don't you give the women what they want?" Immediately tumult broke loose. The interrupter was supported by a considerable body of men, and a fight began which lasted for five minutes. There was a great deal of hard hitting, and about 100 people were exchanging blows.

—Daily Mirror.

At Dundee.

On Thursday, December 1, Mr. Churchill paid his first election visit to Dundee. He spoke in the King's Theatre to men only, not a single woman being admitted. Extraordinary precautions were taken to prevent the entrance of any Suffragette. The theatre was closely watched and four slaters spent the night on the roof. Mr. Churchill was asked: (1) Would he do his best to secure facilities for the Conciliation Bill in the first Session of next Parliament, to which he replied that Mr. Asquith had promised facilities for the second Session; (2) would he state the proportion of working women in Dundee whom the Conciliation Bill would enfranchise. Mr. Churchill said he did not know. (3) Had he any alternative to propose to the Conciliation Bill? No, he had not.

At Frodsham, December 2.

"Have you seen them?" everyone in Frodsham seemed to be saying, the "them" referring to the Suffragettes, who were supposed to have invaded the village. The *Liverpool Echo* says:—"Fifty Suffragettes have already established themselves in the village, and it is rumoured that a couple of hundred are on their way. The women have a bulldog mascot." In spite of all the precautions, however, a Suffragette managed to secrete herself inside the hall, and was only discovered about half an hour before the meeting. Both at Churchill's entrance and exit, there were shouts of "Votes for Women," and he was only saved from the women by a strong force of protectors. In the chief streets he was greeted with groans. Although the meeting was for "men only," he had to encounter the protest of a male sympathiser, who denounced his attitude towards the women.

At Chester.

Chester was well on the look out for the 300 Suffragettes, who were supposed to have invaded the city, headed by Mrs. Pankhurst. Detectives had followed known Suffragettes very suspiciously all round the town for the last two days. Searches were made of the Skating Rink (where the meeting was held), and a Suffragette, who had climbed on to a back roof of the hall, was discovered in the early hours of the morning and turned out. As the time approached for Mr. Churchill's arrival, crowds assembled to see what move the Suffragettes would adopt. About 7.45 the following remark was overheard, "that Mrs. Pankhurst had got him, and would not let him come to the meeting." Detectives were

very much in evidence, and a Suffragette, who advanced as his motor-car approached, was deliberately tripped up, and fell on the ground. But in spite of all precautions (and every ticket had been most carefully distributed), there were male supporters who were ready to denounce and condemn his behaviour to the women. These were local men who came forward and volunteered, as no women were allowed in (not even the Liberal candidate's sister).

Press Comments.

As for Mr. Winston Churchill, he managed to escape like a very fine old tabby cat by rounding his back and spitting and cursing at the police for not getting the Suffragettes away from the Home Office. This has a serious side as well as a humorous one, and we much regret that the partisans of Suffragette policy should descend to the tactics of Tonypanday.

—Planet.

Elaborate precautions were taken to guard against a Suffragist attack on the Home Secretary, who on arriving from Manchester was conducted to the place of meeting under the protection of a strong body of police.

—Daily Telegraph.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE AVOIDS NOTTINGHAM.

Mr. Lloyd George, who is understood to be suffering from "nerves," disappointed the two audiences he was expected to address at Nottingham on Saturday, but his substitute, Colonel Seely, will be able to inform him how Nottingham men feel about the Government's treatment of Suffragists and their claims. No sooner had the speaker asserted that the Liberal party only demanded fair play for its measures than a man rose and said, "Why don't you give fair play to the Suffragettes?" Immediately a score of stewards flung themselves upon the questioner and ejected him with a brutal display of quite unnecessary violence. Disgusted at the rough handling of this pertinent questioner, a man, wearing the red badge of the I.L.P. in his button-hole, indignantly shouted out, "You are not Englishmen to throw out a man like that!" The Labour party will be interested to know that for this generous protest their comrade was ejected with similar violence. A reference to "regrettable deeds" under the old Parliamentary system evoked the question, "Is not the Liberal treatment of women still more regrettable? And the brutality of the police to them by direct orders of the Home Secretary?" Again the questioner was ejected. When Colonel Seely, developing his attack on the Peers, complained that they had rejected the Plural Voting Bill, a fourth man reminded him, "And the Government rejected the Women's Bill." Again the bestial cry of "Out him!" arose, and though Colonel Seely faintly said, "No, no, don't turn him out," the stewards had their way; and as the *Nottingham Guardian* (December 5) observed, "to show what sincerity there was in the speaker's appeal, no sooner had calm been restored when he (Colonel Seely) said, 'I hope we shall deal with the Lords in as summary a fashion.'"

MR. JOHN BURNS.

A member of the Men's Political Union attended a meeting at Southwark on Wednesday evening, November 30, in order to protest against the exclusion of tax-paying women from the gathering. As soon as Mr. John Burns got up to speak the M.P.U. member said, "I protest against the exclusion of women from this meeting. Women pay their taxes the same as men do, and have every bit as much right to be present at an election meeting as men have. You cannot get over that, Mr. Burns." A number of stewards seized the speaker, and ejected him without the customary brutality.

The New Offence.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* reports that Mr. John Burns, at the Holborn Restaurant, on the occasion of the severe heckling reported in VOTES FOR WOMEN, "personally directed operations from his seat at the table below, and ordered the interrupter's companion, a lady in evening dress, to be ejected also, although she had done nothing but smile." Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, alluding to this incident at the Carlton Hall, said that after this women would be able to do nothing else! In the presence of Cabinet Ministers, therefore, no woman would be safe.

As there were several Suffragist interruptions, the police refused to allow any female within several yards of Mr. Burns's motor-car.

—Daily Telegraph.

SIR EDWARD GREY AT PORTS MOUTH.

In some parts of the country Liberals are beginning to realise that it is not in keeping with their professed principles to deny answers to questions and to throw the questioners out. In Portsmouth at least the Liberal candidate, gauging the feeling of sympathy for Suffragettes, actually defended a woman's right to ask a question.

It was on the occasion of Sir Edward Grey's speech on November 29. When he said that the composition of the House of Lords did not please the people Miss Douglas Smith said, "Neither does the composition of the House of Commons please the women." There was uproar, but the chairman said he did not wish people put out. After an interruption by Miss Cather the Liberal candidate said her remark was quite reasonable, and Sir Edward Grey could deal with interrupters. Miss Peacock and Miss Löwy also made effective protests.

and daughter, darting across the barricaded and, of course, thus empty, Waterworks Street, into a side door of the City Hall, to sit upon the platform, protected by specially selected ticketed, inspected young girls and ladies, four London detectives, and Hull's new chief constable!

Another Scene.

Another scene. The Assembly Rooms, England's Prime Minister has done. But do not the enemy, the representatives of half of England's people, wait outside? The Prime Minister hesitates. Sir Robert Hudson, chief of staff, holds a council of war with his general and with his captains. Is there danger? They wonder much. Who will risk an encounter with a sister who may peradventure ask, "When will you grant common justice to us, Mr. Asquith, when will you do something beyond talk, and talk, and talk?" The night draws on, there are dark roads yet to be travelled before final safety at Cottingham (surrounded in bed by police) is attained. Something must be done. One must really risk the encounter of a question! Unless we make a move our men will fall away—with laughter—so make a move we must. But how? A brilliant idea comes at last! A flash of genius! Our general, England's Prime Minister, orders "Ladies first!" First place for ladies when danger lurks without. Let them go first to face it! They have the courage! First place for them now! Second place for them only when they ask for simple justice! So England's Prime Minister sends forth first his wife and daughter to face the dark unknown! Boldly they venture forth. Then behind comes England's great one! The motor is gained. The door is banged and barred. Away rushes the car! The battle is won! Terrible Hull is left behind! Newland gained and passed! The high road traversed with fear ever behind and beside and in front! At last comes Cottingham, the land of rural delights and vegetables! At last, at last, is safety reached, amid the strong arms of the rural police! To-morrow on we go to Windsor to tell of our great bravery!

A flying visit! A flying Prime Minister! A leader truly for a party which has surrendered without protest and without shame its women to brutal cowards to do with as they wish. A party with a leader always on the run, with cowards in the fore and cowards behind, is fit only for the work it does so well—the work of ill-treating women.

Brutality to a Woman.

Miss Laura Ainsworth, a young girl, brave beyond the 3,000 men present, addresses a remark to England's mighty Prime Minister. He glares in reply. He answers not. Burly stewards, six at a time, rush up upon all sides and fear their young sister from her seat, drag her along the floor and down the stairs, bruise her all over, and cut her eye. These are Liberals! This is a Liberal meeting! Three thousand Liberal men and women, high and low, look on, and no one has the courage to thrash those six Liberal stewards! England's Prime Minister intercedes not. What men! What women! What a leader! What a party to hold the reins of power, to control the destinies of our country! Then two or three or four other braves make their protest and suffer in their turn. One, two, three, four, five and on. We think of Carlyle, and how those in power in the old Paris days counted the heads they cut off of the flower of the nation.

The Hull Daily Mail also publishes letters from correspondents protesting in the strongest possible terms against the brutality used towards Miss Laura Ainsworth, who was thrown out of Mr. Asquith's meeting at Hull on November 25. The editor appends the following note:—"We have made inquiries, and have learnt from an eye-witness who saw the lady thrown out of the hall that she seemed to have been very roughly handled. The lady was Miss Ainsworth, of 4, Clement's Inn, Strand, London. A witness of the incident said that the stewards rushed at her from the sides, dragged her from the seat, along the floor, and down the stairs. Her legs, we are informed, were badly bruised and her right eye was cut.—Ed. D.M."

Another correspondent, signing himself "Liberal," asks who is responsible for the arrangements in regard to Mr. Asquith's meeting, and adds:—"Nearly half an hour after the advertised time the doors were opened, and the people admitted one by one. After about 100 had entered it was announced that no more would be admitted. Obviously about 5,000 tickets had been issued for 100 seats. Although the tickets were free, this conduct amounts to a gigantic swindle, and should have some influence on the 5,000 indignant voters left outside."

MRS. PANKHURST AT HULL.

Mrs. Pankhurst addressed what is described by the Yorkshire Post as a "remarkable gathering of 2,000 women," and by the Hull Daily Mail as "a huge gathering," at the Beverley Road Baths on Tuesday in last week. The latter notes the "great ovation" which Mrs. Pankhurst received, and how interested her audience was in her account of the police prosecutions at Hull during Mr. Asquith's visit on November 25. Mrs. Pankhurst remarked:—"Care of Russia in times of revolution are never more carefully guarded and protected." Referring to the absurd lengths to which this police threat-

tion went, Mrs. Pankhurst said that in order to mislead the public a newspaper had been showing a picture of Mr. Winston Churchill's baby under police protection. (Laughter.) "He knows very well," said Mrs. Pankhurst, "that little babies have nothing to fear from us, and I should like to tell him that his little girl would be much safer with me than with him." (Loud applause.)

MR. BIRRELL'S KNEE.

A good deal of nonsense, by the way, has been talked about Mr. Birrell's knee. What really happened was that he had his hat bashed in by a band of militants out to destroy, and in endeavouring to push his way through them twisted his knee, to which a similar accident had happened five years previously. So both the pious horror of the Antis and the self-glorification of the Militants are based on the inventive powers of the halfpenny press.

—Truth.

"BUT."

The militant Suffragette, unfortunately, shows that many women are yet unfit for public life. But the movement proceeds apace.

—South Wales Daily News.

GUARDED.

Ministers have to be more or less constantly under police protection. Not only are the residences of the Prime Minister and most of his colleagues watched, but they themselves are attended by plain-clothes policemen wherever they go. At the town houses of Ministers two constables are always on the watch.

—Liverpool Daily Post.

"IS THIS TRUE?"

"The Suffragists have evidently sympathisers in all quarters. Mr. Bernard P. Ellis, of the Junior Constitutional Club, attributes much of the present bitterness to the treatment of the recent deputations at the House of Commons when 'refined women, young and old, were kicked about like footballs for five or six hours; many of them were treated in a lewd and indecent manner.' If these charges of indecent treatment are being alleged against the police surely it is time they should be investigated. We do not believe them, but they are being made."

—Evening Times.

A QUESTION.

Referring to the alleged attacks on Ministers, which have been exaggerated and distorted by the Press, the Evening Times says: "A woman, no less than a man, is an ardent coward if she strikes a man, knowing full well that her sex prevents instant and painful reprisals." What about the treatment of women on the Deputation of November 18, and at the Battle of Downing Street?

THE TROUBLES OF MINISTERS.

What is to be done with these Suffragists? That is the question uppermost in the minds of Ministers whose embarrassment and perplexity must now be extreme. . . . No Minister can now appear on the platform without being subjected to bitter taunts by Suffragists and their sympathisers. . . . And yet these persecuted Ministers are appealing to the constituencies for a new lease of office! Is there to be found anywhere a more signal example of self-sacrifice? Talk of the patience of Job! His reputation might have been irretrievably shattered had he attained the dignity of a Cabinet Minister and been confronted by frenzied women determined to secure the vote or perish in the attempt!

—Aberdeen Evening Express.

GLASS HOUSES.

On Monday night the Home Secretary uttered a protest, and not before it was time, against the disorder which too often prevails at political meetings, and sometimes leads to their breaking up. His remarks referred particularly to the disorder created by the unruly Suffragists; but he might have applied them with still more justice to the continual disorders which Radical rowdies cause at Unionist meetings. These typical followers of Mr. Lloyd George have no respect whatever for the right of free speech; all they wish to do is to drown the arguments of their opponents by fatuous bores, or the still more fatuous "Land Song," or by the disgraceful parody of "God Save the King" which has lately become popular among a certain class of Radical hooligans. These interruptions are much the same in character as they were at the last election; and they are jubilantly reported by the Radical Press, which apparently has special means of knowing at what meetings the Radical faction will attend in force. In some cases more space is given to the interruptions than to the arguments of the speaker.

—The Globe.

At Plough Road polling-station Mr. John Burns was accosted by a Suffragist, who asked, "When are you going to give votes to women?" To this the right hon. gentleman replied, "When you can behave yourselves," whereupon the lady retorted, "You did not get your seat in Parliament by behaving yourself."

RADICAL ROWDYISM.

According to the Daily Telegraph a great deal of Radical rowdyism is occurring. In the Saffron Walden Division of Essex both candidates have issued an appeal calling for fair play. It is stated that Colonel Probyn (U.) has had stones thrown at his motor-car, the window of which was broken, and the Radicals upset one of his meetings, which ended in uproar. At Yeovil, too, Unionists have been pelted with stones and mud, and it is reported that a young man had his head cut.

LETTERS FROM ELECTORS.

Mr. Goodliffe (whose wife was arrested in connection with the deputation to the Prime Minister) has written a letter to Mr. Leif Jones, Liberal candidate for Rushcliffe, in the course of which he says:—"While agreeing with your views in toto, and thanking you for your outspoken reference to the need for making the House of Commons thoroughly representative . . . by the enfranchisement of women, I shall for the first time in my life vote for the Tory candidate, solely to show in a practical manner (I am debarré in meetings and Liberal Press) my intense disgust with the action of the Liberal Government in their dealings with women on the memorable days November 18 and 22."

Women (whether wisely or unwisely) endeavoured to place a petition in the hands of the Prime Minister. This I hold to be a legitimate proceeding. To frustrate the attempt many of these women were only arrested after a prolonged and disgraceful series of make-believe arrests, in which a good deal of brutality was shown by some of the police, and next day they were released without trial. Had I not seen these scenes I could not have credited it. I have no cause for complaint against your good self or against many of the late members of your party, but your leaders have my contempt, and my vote is lost to your cause."

Mr. H. Tyler (Bakham) has written to his local candidate and to Mr. Asquith to the effect that unless the former can answer in the affirmative the following questions he will withhold his vote:—1. Do you promise to support the Conciliation Bill (Women's Suffrage) if re-introduced in the next Parliament? 2. Will you do all in your power to secure the re-introduction of this Bill next Session?

Another London elector has written to his local member saying that, being dead against Tariff Reform, he would vote Liberal but for one reason and one only, viz., the "odious and really shameful treatment that women Suffragists have received at the hands of the recent Liberal Government, and of Mr. Asquith more especially." He has two votes, and is using both in the same way.

Dr. W. F. Cobb is another staunch supporter who has protested against the treatment of the women by refusing his vote to the Liberal Party.

A MAN'S ANSWER.

Mr. E. D. Löwy has been refused by the Home Office permission to visit Mrs. Löwy in Holloway Prison. The letter of refusal concludes: "I am to point out that Mrs. Löwy can obtain immediate release by paying her fine." Mr. Löwy has replied as follows:—

"Sir,—I am in receipt of yours of yesterday, and note that I can pay Mrs. Löwy's fine in order to get her signature for the cheque and stock transfer I require. I was aware of this from the time she was convicted. If our country were to be at war with another country and every able-bodied man were ordered to take up arms or pay a fine of £10, what would you think of them if every man paid his £10? The prisoners, in their opinion, are fighting a war (to do away with sex disabilities), and would disdain to pay a fine in place of the discomforts resulting from war, just as a man should do in his case.—I am, yours truly,

"E. D. Löwy."

A CALL TO CANVASSERS.

By A Truthful Politician.

Oh, come to our Committee Rooms,
Ye ladies fair and kind!
And help us win the victory
On which we've set our mind.

Oh, come and do our dirty work,
Come, mount our dark back-stair!
But, lest ye should approach the front,
We're strongly guarded there.

Now, gather in your companies,
Ye maistrons dear, who task
In brightest rays of wisdom pure;
And widows, too, we ask.

Yes, e'en the spinster, haleful one,
Whose vote we scorn and fear,
To canvass our constituents
Is ever welcome here.

Come, smile upon our meetings, though
Upon your Bill we frown,
But ask no awkward questions lest
Our stewards knock you down.

Go, teach the British voter how
We labour for fair-play!
Unrepresented woman-folk
Will do to clear the way.

Oh, come to our Committee Rooms,
All-Politicals' tools,
And prove you're what we take you for—
A tribe of useful fools.

E. IRMAN.

"WOMEN AND POLITICS."

"Women of all classes are taking the keenest interest in the coming election, and as so many candidates at this season have to abandon their own canvassing through illness, their wives are taking their place in the constituencies and are working enthusiastically. Women bring into an electioneering campaign a touch of homelife and domesticity that appeal strongly to British minds and hearts. The unmarried women have taken up the idea of visiting the rural districts for the purpose of lecturing on their respective parties with enthusiasm, and are invariably listened to with respect, although the results of their endeavours remain to be seen on the polling days. The Suffragettes, despite their violence, are gaining adherents even amongst the men of the country, some of whom have been disgusted with the unnecessary brutality of the police, reinforced as they were at Westminster by gangs of the lowest types of roughs."

—South Wales Daily News.

WESTERN MORNING NEWS.

It is a feature of significance as a presage of election results—so far as it goes—that at a meeting of Suffragettes during yesterday afternoon, addressed by Miss Decima Moore and Miss Annie Kenney, voters who were present were exhorted to record their votes against Sir Francis Layland-Barratt. Stress was laid on the hypocrisy of the so-called representatives of the people refusing to give prompt effect to one of the first principles of equality and liberty.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Now is the time for Christmas shopping, and we recommend those who are contemplating the purchase of dainty and charming gifts for their friends to study carefully the list of firms which advertise in VOTES FOR WOMEN. By dealing with these firms Suffragettes will be definitely promoting the cause which they have at heart, since the support of the paper VOTES FOR WOMEN is one of the greatest aids to the movement. Among the firms which are having special Christmas shows we should like to mention Messrs. Derry and Toms, of Kensington High Street; Shoobred's, of Tottenham Court Road; Peter Robinson, Oxford Street; and The Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company, 112, Regent Street. At all these places there will be found fascinating exhibitions of beautiful gifts. Last, but not least, readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN will not forget their own shop at 156, Charing Cross Road, where, under the sign of the big clock, they will find everything they can possibly want in the purple, white and green. Readers of this paper will not need reminding that one of the most acceptable presents is a year's subscription to VOTES FOR WOMEN.

TESTIMONIAL TO MRS. ELMY.

On December 1 Mrs. Elmy entered her seventy-eighth year. All her life has been spent in forwarding the movement for raising the status of women in this country. We earnestly hope that she may be spared in health to see the crown put upon her life's work by the granting of votes to women next session. On her birthday Mrs. Elmy was presented with a gift of £500, a small tribute of admiration and gratitude, put together by her friends in all sections of the movement. In a letter to Mrs. Peabody Lawrence she says:—

Dear Friend and Fellow-worker,—I wish, through you, to thank everyone of the dear friends who have joined to send me so splendid a birthday gift—a gift which will make many things possible which must otherwise have been impossible. Just now, at the winter of the year, I am at the lowest ebb of life, force, and strength, but I count on rallying with the coming spring. If only we had a few really earnest friends in the Cabinet our struggle would soon be at an end, but there is no one there, no one now in that body who is willing to help us as Lord Russell of Kilowen (both as Sir Charles Russell and later) and Lord Selborne helped us in those early years. Mr. Haldane professes he is unchanged, but he does nothing; and from such self-seeking humbugs as Lloyd George and Winston Churchill no help need be expected. We must fight and win our own fight.—Ever affectionately,

R. C. WOLSTENHOLME ELMY.

Congleton, December 1, 1910.

In the glory and the uproar of his electioneering Mr. Churchill will probably make very light of the stern rebuke from the senior London magistrate. But what a degradation for a Secretary of State! The last thing we wish is to make party capital out of these odious Suffragette scenes; but who can doubt for a moment that the Government are answerable for the whole of the scandal? By pitiful vacillation from the first, by not daring to say no or to say yes, they have aroused these people to a rage which is natural enough, however disgusting.

—West Anglian Daily Times.

MR. FRANKLIN'S ASSAULT ON MR. CHURCHILL.

Mr. Churchill in the Box.

Mr. Franklin Sent to Prison for Six Weeks.

The case of Mr. Franklin, adjourned from Monday in last week, was heard at Bow Street on Monday last at 3 o'clock. It had been arranged that Mr. Churchill himself should be present to give evidence. A considerable force of police was on duty outside the court, and when Mr. Churchill alighted from his motor-car, which had been stopped outside the door of the police-station, he was at once surrounded by plain-clothes officers. He walked up the street to the public entrance to the court, and was escorted to a seat in counsel's box. Almost immediately Sir Albert De Rutzen, the magistrate, took his seat on the bench, where was also Sir Charles Mathews, the Director of Public Prosecutions. The court was crowded.

Mr. A. H. Bodkin (instructed by Mr. F. J. Williamson, of the Treasury) prosecuted. Mr. Henlé (instructed by Mr. Arthur W. Marshall) appeared for the defence; and Mr. Freke Palmer watched the proceedings on behalf of the defendant's family. It will be remembered that bail had been refused, and Mr. Franklin had, therefore, been in custody for a week.

Detective-sergeant Sanderson was recalled, and, in reply to Mr. Henlé, he said he was not sure whether the defendant was the first or second person who was ejected from Mr. Churchill's meeting at Bradford. He did not see anyone strike him. He did not know that a man named Hawkins was thrown downstairs and sustained a broken leg, but he heard there had been an accident. He was positive that before committing the assault the defendant called Mr. Churchill a "dirty cur."

The Assault.

Detective-inspector Parker said he was in the train with Mr. Churchill, and followed close behind him when he left his compartment to go to the dining-car. When Mr. Churchill opened the door to pass through the compartment in which the defendant was seated, Franklin jumped up and shouted, "Winston Churchill, take that, you dirty cur." He was about to strike Mr. Churchill with a whip, when Sergeant Sanderson seized him and forced him back on his seat.

Cross-examined: He did not see Franklin struck or kicked when he was ejected from the Bradford meeting. He heard that another man's leg was broken, but he was not in a position to see whether unnecessary force was used.

In re-examination, witness said Hawkins, the man whose leg was broken, was ejected after Franklin by the stewards.

Mr. Churchill's Evidence.

Mr. Churchill was the next witness. Replying to Mr. Bodkin, he said he went from Manchester to the meeting at Bradford, and was accompanied by Inspector Parker and Sergeant Sanderson. While he was speaking at Bradford he noticed that four or five people were ejected, but he was unable to distinguish who they were. After the meeting he went direct to the train, leaving at 5.10.

Mr. Bodkin: Did you know the defendant was on that train?—I have never seen the defendant before that occasion.

A little before seven o'clock you were going to the dining-car. Will you tell us what occurred when you opened a door to pass through a third-class compartment?—As the door was opened I saw a man sitting a little towards my right front spring up and rush at me, lifting his arm. I could not hear what he said.

Police Protection.

Did you see anything in his hand?—I could not quite tell what it was, but I saw he was drawing something to strike at me with.

Was he then seized by the police?—I thought he was going to close with me, but before he could do so Sergeant Sanderson, who, unknown to me, was sitting near him, intervened.

What did you do then?—I prepared to defend myself, but when I saw he was secured I renewed my progress to the restaurant car.

Mr. Henlé (cross-examining): When you say the defendant rushed at you, do you mean that he merely took a step or two forward?—I mean that he sprang to his feet and advanced towards me some four or five feet. I didn't pay any attention to what he said. You have told us the defendant is quite unknown to you personally. So far as you know, he has no personal grievance against you?—No, I don't think so.

Interruptions at Meetings.

I want to ask you another thing, which is to some extent dependent upon your experience. Interruptions at public meetings are not infrequent?—Interruptions of this character?

Putting aside interruptions in connection with women's suffrage, you do get hostile interruptions?—Hardly ever interruptions of a character intended to bring a meeting to a standstill.

But you do get interruptions during public meetings?—Oh, yes.

And, again, putting aside interruptions which Ministers have been subjected to in connection with the suffrage movement, it is not usual to turn the interrupter out unless he is very persistent?—No.

Of course, there has been during recent months a good deal of interruption by those

who support the suffrage movement?—For the last five years. (Laughter.)

And in more recent years a good deal of annoyance has arisen at public meetings when these interruptions take place?—I don't distinguish at all in the degree of the interruptions. For the last five years nearly every meeting I have addressed has been interrupted by organised interrupters.

And in the last two or three years audiences have expressed great annoyance at these interruptions?—Yes.

And is it in your experience that at these public meetings the supporters of the suffrage movement are sometimes handled with considerable roughness?

The magistrate remarked that he really could not see what this had to do with the case.

Mr. Henlé replied that he was leading up to a point which he hoped would have some bearing on the case.

Violent Ejections.

Mr. Churchill, answering the question, said he agreed that the interrupters were sometimes ejected with very great violence.

Was that so at this particular meeting?—I could not see how they were handled outside the hall.

But you saw how they were being handled in the hall?—I saw the people who were sitting near them rush at them, seize them, and thrust them out of the doors.

You didn't suggest that they should be handled with any degree of gentleness?—I have on several occasions done so.

But on this occasion?—No.

Paid Agitators.

Mr. Henlé was proceeding to ask Mr. Churchill about something he said at the meeting, when Mr. Bodkin objected, and Sir Albert De Rutzen repeated that to his mind all this was quite irrelevant. All he had to deal with was what took place in the train.

Mr. Henlé said his object was to bring before the Court matters which he believed were worthy of consideration.

The Magistrate: It is not even evidence. But go on in your own way.

Mr. Henlé (to witness): You are reported to have said:—

"We are here to do the nation's business, and not to pay attention to foolish antics, which, although they may bring a little profit to the persons engaged in them, only injure their cause."

Did you mean to suggest that these people were paid?—I don't suggest that in every case they are paid, but I do suggest that the militant movement is largely conducted by means of money, and these demonstrations bring money to the militant movement.

But you don't suggest that particular individuals are making a profit out of these demonstrations?—I make no suggestion as to individuals, but I do make a suggestion as to the general class of persons engaged in this, most distinctly. I did in public, and I make it now.

Counsel was going on to deal with the disturbance in Downing Street on November 22 when the magistrate again interposed.

Mr. Henlé said he would state at once that there was no question as to the assault having been committed, but his contention was that he was entitled to show the state of the defendant's mind, so that the Court might judge whether he was actuated by motives which would mitigate such punishment as might be inflicted.

The Magistrate: If you want to get at what was in the defendant's mind you had better put him in the box. I shall not allow the question.

Mr. Churchill: May I, before I leave the box, say one word. So far as I am concerned, if your worship should find it possible to take a lenient view of the circumstances, that would be agreeable to me.

Sir Albert De Rutzen: I won't forget what you say, but it places the magistrate in rather a difficult position.

Mr. Churchill: I have only come here because it is my duty and I have been asked to come, not out of any desire to press the case unduly against the defendant.

Mr. Churchill then left the witness-box and the Court. He was heard to call upon the police for protection along the street.

Mr. Franklin's Evidence.

Mr. Franklin then went into the witness-box, and, in reply to Mr. Henlé, stated that he was twenty-one years of age, and came down this year from King's College, Cambridge, and in February joined the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement.

Mr. Henlé: Now, Mr. Franklin, you agree, do you not, in the main with the evidence that has been given on behalf of the prosecution relating to the incident in the train?—Yes, but I did not use the word "dirty." I called Mr. Churchill "a cur." Mr. Churchill is not personally known to me. I had never spoken to him before, and, apart from my political views in connection with the Woman Suffrage movement, I have no personal grievance against him. I was not actuated in what I did on November 26 by any other motive than political motives.

Mr. Henlé: What was it that led up to your acting in the way in which you did on November 26?

Mr. Franklin: There were several cases in which I think Mr. Churchill acted as he ought not to have acted. I was present in Parliament Square on November 18, when a

women's deputation was sent to the House of Commons. That deputation was met with resistance from the police. Apparently the police had orders not to arrest the women.

Mr. Bodkin objected to this last sentence, and the witness was asked to confine his attention to what he actually saw and not to make any comment thereon. Mr. Franklin proceeded: The women were subjected to a good deal of violence before they were arrested, and, on seeing one particular woman being maltreated by the police I spoke to a constable and said, "You can arrest this lady if you want to, but you ought not to ill-treat her." I was consequently arrested by two other constables on a charge of obstructing the police. I was subsequently brought up in this Court and was discharged without any evidence being offered against me. I was given no opportunity of justifying my action or proving my innocence by the direct orders of the Home Secretary.

On November 22 there was a deputation of women sent to the Prime Minister's house in Downing Street, which was also met with resistance from the police. I was present in Downing Street and I noticed the same brutality accorded to the women. After Downing Street had been cleared I was down at the St. James's Park end, at the bottom of the steps, when Mrs. Cobden Sanderson came out of Downing Street. She came up to where I was standing with another lady. She made some remarks to me, after hearing—

Mr. Henlé: Now, I think I am entitled to ask whether those remarks referred to something that Mr. Churchill had said or done.

The prosecution objected to this question, and, addressing the magistrate, the counsel for the defence said: I wish to say that, as I have explained before, I am not putting forward the conversation as an attack upon Mr. Churchill, but I merely wish to arrive at what made up my client's mind, and what was said to him by other people may have had considerable influence on his conduct. What I wish to submit to you is this: where I am giving a conversation in order to prove an extraneous fact, that conversation, of course, cannot be admitted in evidence, but where I am putting forward a conversation in order to prove that the words used were themselves the objective facts which had a bearing on the person's mind, there, I think, I am entitled to do it.

Sir Albert de Rutzen: No; I am quite against you on that.

Mr. Henlé: Of course, I am subject to your Worship's ruling. (To witness): Mrs.

Sanderson made some assertions to you?—Yes.

Mr. Henlé: Just tell us; you went to the Bradford meeting?—Yes.

You made an interjection at that meeting?—Yes.

And you were turned out?—Yes.

Was any violence used in turning you out?—Yes.

Did you subsequently have reported to you the words which I read out as having been used by Mr. Churchill at that meeting?—Yes.

Was there a man called Hawkins at that meeting, and was he ejected?—Yes, but I did not see him ejected.

Did you also receive information as to that?—Yes.

You went home by a train that left Bradford at 5.10 p.m.?—Yes.

Did you know that Mr. Churchill was going to travel in that train?—Not until I arrived at the station.

You travelled up and the events happened which have been related?—Yes.

The Cross-Examination.

Mr. Bodkin then rose to cross-examine the witness: Were you in the employ of any one of these Leagues or Societies?—I am employed by absolutely no League or Society whatsoever.

You belong to the Men's Political Union, of 13, Buckingham Street?—I am a member of it.

Is that the Men's League for Woman Suffrage?—No; the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement.

You are not in any employment of any kind?—No.

You have no profession, or business, or employment of any kind?—No employment of any kind.

Except the work done for this movement?—That is not an employment; it is perfectly voluntary.

But you do nothing else?—I do many other things.

I gather that you have been during October and November travelling about the country in connection with that movement?—Yes.

Were you paid?—I was paid by no one.

Not your expenses?—My railway fares were paid.

Were you in Liverpool on November 12?—Yes.

Did you make a disturbance there?—I asked Mr. Burns a question.

You created a disturbance?—I believe the

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fact that I asked a question created a disturbance.

On November 18, you have told us, you were taken into custody?—Yes.

I understand that your grievance is that you were not tried in this Court?—I was not given an opportunity of justifying my action or proving my innocence.

You said that was by the direct orders of the Home Secretary. That was your grievance? Those orders prevented you from putting your case before the Court?—Yes.

On November 21 you were ejected from the Paragon at Mile End?—Yes.

After having created a disturbance at the meeting where the Chancellor of the Exchequer was speaking?—The disturbance was created by ejecting me after my question.

You were in Downing Street on November 22nd?—Yes.

Was that the occasion on which two of His Majesty's Ministers were hustled and one of them injured—Mr. Birrell?—So I am informed.

Have you any doubt whatever that it was on that occasion?—It was on that occasion.

There were a crowd of women in Downing Street?—Of women and police.

You went there in your capacity as member of the Men's Political Union?—I went there as a person interested in the Woman Suffrage movement.

Did you go from Downing Street to a meeting of Mr. Churchill's?—Yes.

And you were ejected from that?—Yes.

I gather that your grievance was against Mr. Churchill in respect of your arrest and discharge, and on the 22nd of November in Downing Street, in what this lady, Mrs. Sanderson, said you heard something further about Mr. Churchill, and you went to this meeting intending to create a disturbance?—I went there with the intention of asking a question.

Knowing that the immediate result would be that you would be ejected?—From experience, I had learnt that Cabinet Ministers had one ejected for asking such questions.

On November 25th did you go to Hull?—Yes.

How many members of your League did you meet at Hull?—I only actually saw two.

Were they the only members of your League there?—So far as I know.

Were they paid for by this League?—Their railway fares were paid.

What did you go to Hull for?—To ask Mr. Asquith a question.

Did you attend his meeting, and were you ejected?—Yes.

On the morning of the 26th did you leave Hull by a train leaving at about half-past nine?—Yes.

Where were you going?—To Bradford.

Did you know that the Prime Minister was travelling by that train?—Not until he got in at a small station.

Were you stopped on that occasion by police officers?—No.

Not on trying to reach the Prime Minister's carriage?—No.

Were you with a lady on that occasion?—Yes.

Miss Laura Ainsworth?—Yes.

I suggest to you that as the train was getting near to Doncaster you went through your compartment towards the Prime Minister's compartment and were stopped by Sergeant Stevens at the door?—No, I was not stopped by Sergeant Stevens.

Did you get out of the train at Doncaster?—Yes.

And the lady also?—Yes.

Did she begin to make a disturbance at the window of the Prime Minister's carriage?—When she got an opportunity she went up to the Prime Minister's carriage to ask Mr. Asquith a question.

Being on the platform outside the window of his carriage, did she strike it several times with her fist?—Yes. That was to attract his attention in order to ask the question.

And Sergeant Stevens turned you both away from the carriage window?—He threw Miss Ainsworth away.

And you interfered, and then he turned you off?—He did not turn me off; the train was just starting, and we only just had time to catch it.

Why did you get out at Doncaster?—To change for Bradford.

And you, of course, were going to Bradford for the purpose of going to Mr. Churchill's meeting?—Yes.

And then you went, and we have heard what took place at that meeting?—Yes.

When did you first know that Mr. Churchill was going to travel by the 5.10 train?—When I saw the police by the gate near the platform.

Was your compartment close to that of Mr. Churchill?—It was in the same carriage.

Why did you want to get into the same carriage?—To whip him.

Then you intended to do that?—I intended to do that long before that day.

Long before! How long before?—Since the evening of the 22nd.

You went to this meeting as a consequence of what Mrs. Cobden Sanderson had said to you on the evening of the 22nd?—That was the last straw.

May I put the question that she suggested such a thing to you?—No one suggested it to me; I turned round to my friend and said "I will whip him for this."

Who was the friend?—Miss Vera Wentworth.

A member of a Suffrage society?—A member of the Women's Social and Political Union.

Did you announce your intention to any of the prominent ladies in the movement?—Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, did you tell her?—I think she must have heard what I said. She was standing quite close.

Did she try to dissuade you from it?—Not as far as I can remember.

Did you communicate your intention to others?—I think I said that I was going to try and whip him.

To whom did you say that you would like to try to whip Mr. Churchill?—I do not know who it was; I may have told Miss Ainsworth.

Could you pledge your word to the Magistrate that you cannot remember the names of any others than that of Miss Ainsworth?—I do not think I told them.

Mr. Henlé here interposed, saying that the question put by the prosecution was not relevant; Mr. Franklin had been quite frank about admitting the assault, and to whom he communicated his intention before the occurrence was of no importance. Mr. Bodkin, however, continued:

How many others did you tell?—I am not going to say any more.

You know others, but you are not going to give their names. What did you mean by saying just now that you did not remember?—I cannot remember having told any definite person, but I know that they knew.

Did you discuss it with Miss Ainsworth before you boarded the 5.10 train?—We may have discussed it; I really cannot remember the exact conversation that took place; that is perfectly obvious. I should think it very probable that we did.

And the best place in the train from which to do it?—Oh yes, after we knew that Mr. Churchill was going by that train; then we did talk about it.

Where did you get the whip?—Either in the Strand or Fleet Street.

For the purpose?—For the purpose.

When?—On the Tuesday evening.

After the Downing Street occurrence?—Yes.

Where were you going when you got it?—I was on my way to the Highbury meeting.

You took the whip with you to the Highbury Athenaeum meeting. That was Mr. Churchill's meeting, from which you were ejected. Why had you the whip with you then? Did you intend to use it?—Yes.

Was it the fact that you were ejected from the meeting which prevented you?—I could not get close enough.

What Mrs. Cobden Sanderson Saw

The cross-examination ended, Mr. Henlé rose, saying to the defendant: I think I am now entitled to ask you what it was that Mrs. Cobden Sanderson said to you which led you to act in this way. She said she had been in Downing Street. Mr. Churchill had appeared, and had said to an inspector, "Turn that woman away; allow no one to loiter here." That is as far as I can remember it.

Mr. Henlé: What was her condition when she saw you?—She did not look very well.

Was that a condition which anyone else could have observed?—Yes, I should think so; she looked pale.

Apart from receiving your railway fares to and from the places that you go to, do you get any remuneration or reward for your work in connection with this movement?—Absolutely none.

Or in connection with this particular society to which you belong?—Absolutely none.

Subject to the limitation that I have put as to railway expenses, so far as you know, are the other members of the League paid for their services?—No, absolutely none of them are; their services are perfectly voluntary, and everyone who does any service offers to do it.

In fact, so far from getting money out of it, you give money to the movement?—Yes.

When you left the University, did you enter any employment?—Yes.

Did you continue in it?—Yes, for about seven weeks.

Why did you give it up?—Because it did not give me sufficient scope in connection with this movement.

Before the defendant left the witness-box, Sir Albert de Rutzen said: One of your probable reasons for disagreeing with the Home Secretary was that you were taken into custody and discharged without being given an opportunity of justifying your conduct. Did it occur to you that you could have taken out a summons against the policeman who arrested you?—I was informed that the Home Secretary was directly responsible for it.

The Magistrate: You could have taken out a summons against the policeman for unlawful arrest. Well, we do not wish to come down on the policeman for the action of their superiors.

MR. HENLÉ'S SPEECH.

Mr. Henlé, in the course of his speech, said that the court was not concerned with the rights or wrongs of any political movement. The question they had to deal with was that of assault. It had already been admitted that there was an assault, and an assault which from the lawyer's point of view could not be justified. Therefore the only question that remained was that of how the defendant was to be dealt with, and it was to that question he proposed to address himself.

In the first place, he desired to point out that the assault was abortive, and no injury was done to the person upon whom the assault was made. It was on the second point, however, that he proposed to lay most stress. Proceeding, he said:

There is this difference between criminal proceedings for assault and the proceedings in a civil court. In the latter case, where one is dealing with an admission that there has been an assault, the only question is the extent of the damage which the plaintiff has suffered at the hands of the defendant; in other words, the point of view of the plaintiff is taken. But if you are dealing with it in a criminal court the magistrate who is to consider the question of punishment is largely guided by the point of view of the defendant—that is to say, the circumstances in which he came to commit the act are taken into account. If it were a case of mere personal spite, or petty



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revenge, or something of that sort, the assault might be said to be an assault of a very serious nature; but if, on the other hand, the defendant is found to be actuated by motives which as motives are worthy of praise then, though the result of those motives may be a breach of the law, the law may be inclined to deal with it something more leniently.

The Motives of Mr. Franklin.

Now, in this case I think I am entitled to say that the motives of the defendant were not those of an ordinary criminal at all. This is not a case of a man who has a personal grievance against Mr. Churchill upon which he is seeking to avenge himself. I think you will agree with me, sir, if you take the demeanour of the witness in the box it was one of transparent truthfulness. There was no question put to him by anybody at all of any sort which he did not strive to answer. His answers were clear and to the point, whether they were for him or against him. You have here, he continued, a young man, fresh from the University, filled, as I think you yourself will agree, with a chivalrous and certainly disinterested enthusiasm for a cause, and he sacrifices everything for that cause. He has given up, as he has told you, an employment for the purpose of assisting this cause, to which he has rendered other services, and has also given money.

Mr. Henlé then briefly touched on the incidents which had roused indignation in the mind of Mr. Franklin and had induced him to act as he had done, and concluded by urging the magistrate to give full consideration to this view of the circumstances.

MAGISTRATE'S DECISION.

Sir Albert De Rutzen said it had not been disputed for a moment that the defendant committed an assault, and what he had to look at was the nature of the assault. In his opinion it was done in cold blood, without any provocation, and evidently intended for some time past. The defendant had been asked, and had, he deemed, truthfully answered, what was the reason why he committed the assault. That was a political question with which he

(Sir Albert) had nothing to do. He was simply there to administer justice and to protect the people from people who behaved like the defendant did on this occasion. He should not be doing his duty if he did not do that. He was remembering the words of the Home Secretary when he asked that leniency should be shown to the defendant, and instead of doing what he had intended to do, he should sentence the defendant to six weeks in the second division, and he rather hoped this would let people see that they could not violate the law in this way with impunity.

Mr. Henlé asked when the six weeks would date from, and pointed out that the defendant had been in custody a week.

The Magistrate: It will date from to-day. I should like to say this. The fact that this assault was committed on the Home Secretary has no influence with me whatever. This punishment I should award to anyone who committed an assault of this character on any person who was doing his legitimate business, whether addressing a meeting or not.

The Prisoner: Is this in the second division?

The Magistrate: Yes.

(A statement by Mr. Franklin appears on p. 168.)

MR. HAWKINS.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Sir,—With your kind permission, I wish to thank, through the medium of your columns, the great number of friends who have written me letters of sympathy and encouragement. It would be impossible for me to reply to everyone separately. At present I am not equal to the task. I am pleased to say I am progressing as well as can possibly be expected. I hope to be able to write more next week.—Yours, etc.,

A. HAWKINS.

Mr. Hawkins, who, as we stated in last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN, was severely injured by Liberal Stewards at Bradford at Mr. Winston Churchill's meeting on November 26, has, we learn, not only had his leg broken but his ankle very badly damaged.

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MRS. PANKHURST AT WISBECH.

At Wisbech, where a vigorous campaign is being carried out (see p. 160), Mrs. Pankhurst has had splendid meetings, and the W.S.P.U. organiser, Miss Roe, reports that on Monday night "it was simply magnificent; after filling another hall for overflow more than the number of people in both halls remained outside!" Excellent reports are appearing in the local Press, and it is evident that many misunderstandings are being cleared away. One paper heads its report of Thursday's meeting in the Public Hall—

"SUFFRAGETTES ENTER THE FRAY. SEEKING TO CONVERT NORTH CAMBS. ELECTORS"—

and begins: "An additional interest has been given to the political fight in North Cambs. by the arrival in the division of a number of Suffragettes."

The *Wisbech Times* hits the nail on the head when it says: "The Women's Social and Political Union are 'agin the Government,'" adding that "in fact, they are working their hardest against every Radical candidate in the country."

Mrs. Pankhurst answered a number of questions at her meeting on Thursday, December 1, and concluded her speech by saying that the women's cause was just, and so clear that if every right-minded man would put prejudice on one side and think it over he would realise that Parliament had duties to women as well as men. In all great games the handicap was put upon the strong, and the weak were given a chance, but in the great game of life we put the handicap upon the weak. The handicap of the sexes was the greatest handicap of all. Women not born rich—and few were that—had to turn out like men and face the struggle of life. They were handicapped first by nature, because it was a handicap to be that half of humanity which had the responsibility of carrying on the race. She did not think men realised what a terrible handicap that was. Certainly men who said that women should not have the vote because they could not be soldiers did not realise it, for it needed more courage to go on that battlefield than to fight any other kind of battle. And besides the natural handicap, they had artificial handicaps put upon them. The worst paid and hardest work was put upon them, and laws were made to which they had to submit without being consulted. Those were women's handicaps, and they came to the people in these days, when they were talking about the poor and weak and helpless, and said that if they wanted to make homes better and the world more moral and brighter, they must take the handicaps off women, for they cared for these things—for homes and for children—more than men did. They did not ask for the same power as men for selfish purposes. They wanted to co-operate with the best and most thoughtful of men to make the world better and wiser and nobler than men, however intelligent they might be, would ever be able to make it without the help of women. (Applause.)

AN IMPRESSION.

Miss Madeleine Wilson sends us a very appreciative little account of Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting at Hull, in the course of which she says:—"I listened eagerly to every word, not knowing if Mrs. Pankhurst had been speaking five minutes or five hours, only hoping she would not stop, when suddenly I realised she had ceased speaking, and that the meeting was at an end. But she still held that room full of people in the hollow of her hand, and I believe as they went out they would have done anything she asked, so convinced were they of the justice of her cause."

HOME TRUTHS AT QUEEN'S HALL.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held at the Queen's Hall last Monday. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence explained the absence of Miss Christabel Pankhurst, who was watching the case of Mr. Franklin at Bow Street. The name of Mr. Franklin was greeted with great enthusiasm, and a special collection, which amounted in payments and promises to £50, was made to meet the legal expenses of the M.P.U. Miss Isabel Seymour's interesting speech was much appreciated by the audience, and Lady Stout was greeted with cheers as she told how she had sent to New Zealand a true description of the whole scene in Parliament Square, in order that public opinion should be instructed and not misled, as has been the case before.

Prominent Welshmen have sent a telegram to Mr. Lloyd George praying him to use his influence to pledge the Government to give full facilities next Session for a reasonable and moderate women suffrage measure on lines certain to secure a majority in the House. The signatories include:—The Rev. T. Gascoigne, Prof. J. Gibson, Prof. W. Lewis Jones, Alderman W. P. Matthews, Dr. K. J. P. Orton, Mr. Price White, Prof. T. Hudson-Williams, etc.

TAX RESISTANCE.

One of the weapons of opposition which will be employed by women will be "tax resistance." Those who are proposing to do this will do well to make themselves acquainted, as far as possible, with the law on the question, and we recommend them to apply to the offices of the Women's Tax Resistance League at 72, Hillfield Road, Hampstead, N.W., whose secretary, Mrs. Kington Parkes, will be pleased to supply them with information.

"UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND VIOLENT."

At a hastily summoned indignation meeting at Hastings the Women's Suffrage Propaganda League has passed a resolution protesting against the "unconstitutional and violent methods adopted by the Government on November 18 to prevent a small deputation of women bringing a political grievance before the Prime Minister." This was carried unanimously and telegraphed to the Prime Minister.

BYSTANDER'S VIEW.

Not the least remarkable feature of last week's Suffragist raid was, writes an observant Bystander, the number of obviously aristocratic women in the ranks of the militants. They came in motley, wrapped in their darkest furs, and looking supremely nervous and uncomfortable, if also uplifted and determined. And the crowd—that hateful element that on these occasions is the bane of Suffragists and police alike—reserved their choicest gibes (of which the least offensive is the "or be ashamed of 'erself, sh'ought") for a grey-haired, middle-aged patrician who, only a few yards from the car where her footman—eyes front!—waited, charged the police line repeatedly. Stony horror was writ large upon her face, but she was still pushing when, half an hour later, sick at heart, I left the horrid scene.

—Bystander.

A CANVASSER'S EXPERIENCE.

"Tired and anxious to hurry through the remainder of my allotted task, I resisted the sore temptation to skip the 'Tory' house. The door was opened by the wife, and after a little friendly conversation, she said: 'My husband has always voted Liberal until now; but one day I found a copy of your election address pushed under the door and laid it beside my husband's plate at supper-time. He read it attentively and then he said: 'This is a piece of sound sense. The women know what they want, anyhow, and they shall have my vote this time. Take down the blue card.'"

"A MARVELLOUS ORGANISATION."

What a marvellous organisation is that of the Women's Social and Political Union, which is the most prominent of the several societies which are conducted for the purpose of securing the franchise for women. Its growth has been rapid; the work that it has accomplished is stupendous, the enthusiasm and readiness nay, eagerness—to suffer for "the cause" which seems to fill the breast of each individual member is amazing. . . . They have not a few sympathisers and supporters in Brixton, as the meetings which were held throughout the summer at Brockwell Park clearly showed.

—Brixtonian.

In addition to other precautions, Mr. Winston Churchill is guarded personally. Whenever he is at home a detective remains in the house, while a detective also follows Mrs. Churchill.

—Weekly Dispatch.

The German Emperor announces that henceforth those people shall prevail in warfare who abstain from alcohol. Help! Many of our leading Suffragettes are teetotalers!

—London Opinion.

AN INTERESTING COMMENT.

The following extract from the *Daily News* review of "Leaders of the People," by Mr. Joseph Clayton, is of peculiar interest: "His strict habit of testing the events of history by the democratic principle makes his book significant as well as intensely interesting. It is curious, by the way, to note how many of these old revolts were on the verge of succeeding. Had the rebels not trusted the pledges of the authorities too readily, but kept their salvation in their own hands, both the Wat Tyler and the Jack Cade insurrections would have achieved their purpose."

WASHINGTON WOMEN.

Congratulations to the 130,000 women of Washington who have been added to the electorate by the overwhelming adoption of the Woman Suffrage Amendment to the Constitution. There is a magnificent opportunity to aid in raising the level of honesty and efficiency in government. And congratulations to the men who gave them the opportunity.

A glance at any map of the United States will show that Colorado alone is as large as Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, and Connecticut put together. The same is true of Idaho and Wyoming, and Washington is nearly as large. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt pointed out some time ago that women now have the right to vote on about one-fiftieth of the surface of the globe.

—Woman's Journal (Boston, U.S.).

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CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

Although the General Election is practically over there is plenty of work still to be done. Reports of election work will be found on pp. 160 and 161.

W.S.P.U. General Offices: 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

Will those members who are free on Friday mornings at 11 o'clock join the poster parades which take place from 156, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C., to advertise the paper, *VOTES FOR WOMEN*? Miss Ainsworth, at that address, will be very glad of new recruits. She will also be glad to receive the names of additional sellers of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* at the various pitches.

CHELSEA, KENSAL TOWN, AND BATTERSEA.

Shop and Office—30, King's Road.
Hon. Secs.—Miss Hail and Miss Blacklock.
Members are reminded of the Jubilee Sale on Monday next. Parcels should be sent to 34, Lambourne Road, Clapham.

CLAPHAM.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Strong, 61, Elspeth Road, Lavender Hill, S.W.
Last Sunday's meeting on the Common was addressed by Miss Canning and Mr. Victor Duval. In spite of the presence of some Young Liberals, the crowd was very interested and sympathetic, and great indignation was roused when the speakers explained the case of Mr. Rankin. Every paper was sold and a collection taken.

CROYDON.

Office—2, Station Buildings, West Croydon.
Tel. 868 Croydon (Nat.). Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Cameron-Swan, 19, Mayfield Road, Sandstead, Surrey, and Miss Leslie Hall.

Warm thanks to all who worked hard and helped to make the Public Hall meeting on Dec. 2 such a success: especially to those who poster-paraded with decorated umbrellas, and to Miss Wallace and a M.P.U. member, who stood outside the meeting holding flags, and inviting people to come in. The speeches were listened to with great interest, the accounts of the treatment of the members on the deputation arousing much indignation and enthusiasm. Dr. Garrett Anderson was in the chair, and at the end of the meeting Miss Evelyn Sharp and Miss Douglas Smith dealt very effectively with questions. All members are invited to bring their friends to the At Home and Bazaar Exhibition at the Shop to-morrow (Saturday). Tea will be provided, 3d. Those unable to come in the afternoon will be able to see the articles in the morning. All members should make it a point of honour to visit the Christmas stall before buying presents elsewhere. Miss Hardy earnestly appeals for more paper-sellers.

HAMMERSMITH.

Shop and Office—100, Hammersmith Road.
Organising Sec.—Mrs. E. L. Butler.
Members have been very busy distributing leaflets in the district, and several thousands have been given away. On Saturday evening Mrs. Butler and Miss Mackay spoke at The Grove, and on Sunday Mrs. Burman and Miss Bickerton held a meeting at Ravenscourt Park. On Tuesday evening the members held their weekly meeting, and a collection was taken. Many thanks to Miss Challen, Miss Wills, Miss Mackay, Mrs. H. Howe, for help given during the week.

LAMBETH.

Organising Sec.—Miss Leonora Tyson, 97, Drewstead Road, Streatham.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Bartals, 22, Acadia Grove, Dulwich.
It is suggested that no more fitting tribute can be paid by this Union to the brave women now in Holloway than by supplying regularly a copy of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* to every public library in Lambeth. The yearly subscription is only 4s. 6d. Who will undertake to raise this sum amongst her friends? Already received (towards West Norwood Public Library): Mrs. Vaughan 1s., Mrs. Tyson 2s. Further contributions should be sent to Miss L. Tyson at the above address.

LEWISHAM.

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Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Bowyer, 22, Mount Pleasant Road.
The last meeting of the season was held on Hilby Fields on Sunday, December 4, when Miss Lambert and Mrs. Bowyer spoke. Thanks to those members who have done such splendid work in Kennington, where most successful meetings have been held. Gratefully acknowledged for Election Fund: Mrs. Park and Mr. W. Park 5s., Mrs. Parry 5s., The Misses Townsend 5s., Miss Lambert 3s., Mrs. Cole 6d., Anon. 6d. An urgent appeal is made for further contributions. On Monday, November 28, Miss Ogston took part in a debate at the St. Cyprian's Men's Society on "Why Women Should Not Have the Vote." The audience was large and appreciative, and literature was sold. Inspection of the Christmas stall is invited.

N.W. LONDON.

Shop and Office—218, High Road, Millburn. Tel. 1155 Hampstead.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Penn Gaskell, 15, Nicoll Road, Willesden.
Six members of this Union have just been released after a fortnight's imprisonment, and one is still in Holloway, having for precisely the same offence

received the vindictive sentence of two months. Will all members who are not able to make the same sacrifices at least show their appreciation of the courage and devotion of those women by doing all in their power for the cause? Help can be given by subscribing to the local union, by making purchases in the shop as well as by personal work and services. The offer of a drawing-room or small hall for a meeting will be much appreciated. Also paper-sellers are very urgently needed. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss G. Llewellyn, 5s. 3d.; Mrs. Penn Gaskell, 10s.; Hendon Union, 22 15s.

PADDINGTON AND MARYLEBONE.

Shop and Office—20, Praed Street, W.
Hon. Sec.—Hon. Mrs. Haverfield.
During their organizer's absence on "other business" last week members and faithful workers worked their hardest, selling 220 copies of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, holding meetings, and doing great trade in the shop. A novel appeal at a well-attended meeting at 50, Praed Street, Tuesday evening, had the following result: A member suggested that any branch that had a member in prison should give a weekly subscription during the period of her detention, and thus could accumulate a nice little sum to present to her local union on her release. As Mrs. Haverfield's fine was paid by some well-intentioned but unwarrantably interfering person, the Government thus making 25 to assist in keeping up police, &c., to repress the movement, it was thought good to collect even more to work against them. Promises amounting to 27 7s. rolled in in less time than it takes to tell, once more proving the services women are ready to make for their cause, albeit the whole amount coming from those who have to work for their living. A sale of articles suitable for Christmas gifts will take place on Tuesday next (see programme), when all are begged to send contributions and to come and buy.

POTNEY AND FULHAM.

Shop—60, Fulham Road.
Hon. Secs.—Miss Catten, 37, Parson's Green, S.W., and Mrs. H. Roberts.
Members have been helping at Battersea. Now the Election is over, they are reminded that members' rallies will be resumed on Thursday next. Will members and friends please patronise the shop when buying Christmas cards, calendars, boxes of sweets, bon-bons, etc.? Miss Belle has kindly undertaken to act as Votes Captain, and will be glad to hear from all who can spare a couple of hours either at the Walham Green or Potney pitch.

WIMBLEDON.

Hon. Organising Sec.: Mrs. Lamartine Yates, Dorset Hall, Wandsworth, Surrey.
Shop: 5, Victoria Crescent, Broadway, Wimbledon Tel. 1092, P.O. Wimbledon.
Arrangements have been made for an effective display of alternating announcements on the illuminated screen upon which the election results are posted in the Broadway each night. These are "Suffragettes Believe in Deeds not Words," and "The Women's Will Beats Aquith's Won't," and will appear between polling results throughout the elections. Will members make a point of distributing "Facts about Deputations" among the waiting crowds and selling the paper each night? In the absence of a local contest this is most important and useful work.

Home Counties.**READING.**

Shop and Office: 39, West Street.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Shaw.
Members are now asked to work their utmost for the Christmas bazaar to be held next week. There is work to be done in the shop and helpers are needed. Articles in the colours, cakes, plum puddings and mince pies will be most acceptable.

REDHILL.

Wednesday, Dec. 14.—Canton Room, 77, Station Road, Mrs. Pyatt, Chair, Miss Ford, 8 p.m.

The Midlands.**BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.**

Office—27, John Bright Street, Tel. 1443 Midland.
Organiser—Miss Dorothy Evans.
Members should send in any goods collected for the Southport Exhibition in time for the preliminary sale (see below). This postponement of the Exhibition will allow of further work being done in the Christmas holidays.
Friday, Dec. 16.—Queen's College, Sale of Work. Lady Isabel Margeson, Miss Hilda Burditt, 5 and 6 p.m.

North-Eastern Counties.**BRADFORD AND DISTRICT.**

Saturday, Dec. 10.—Sale of Christmas Goods, 3 to 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 14.—Masonic Hall, Rawson Square, Miss J. L. Campbell, 8 to 10 p.m.

LEEDS.

Organiser—Miss Adela Pankhurst.
Every Tuesday—10, Lumley Walk, Burley, Meeting, 7.30 p.m.

LONDON MEETINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK.

December.	Address.	Poster Parades.	Time.
Friday, 9	156, Charing Cross Road, W.	Miss Vera Wentworth, Miss Rogers.	11 a.m.
" 10	Forest Gate, Barham Grove	Miss Marie Naylor. Chair: Mrs. Dickinson.	8 p.m.
" 10	Harrow Road, Sutherland Avenue	Mrs. Drummond, Miss Bowditch.	8 p.m.
" 10	Wimbledon, 6, Victoria Crescent	Miss Haslam.	8 p.m.
Saturday, 10	The Broadway	Miss Hopkins.	7.30 p.m.
" 10	Barnsey Road, L.C.C. Schools	Members and Friends	4.30 to 7 p.m.
" 10	Ilford, opposite Station	At Home and Bazaar Exhibition	2.30 to 6 p.m.
" 10	Levensham, Shop, Rally		
" 10	West Croydon, 2, Station Buildings		
Sunday, 11	Wimbledon Common	Miss Peel, Chair: Miss Higgs.	3 p.m.
Monday, 12	Forest Gate, Barham Hall		8 p.m.
" 12	Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W.	Miss Eva Moore, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B., F. W. Fobich Laurence.	3 to 5 p.m.
Tuesday, 13	West Croydon, 2, Station Buildings		8 p.m.
" 13	100, Hammersmith Road, W.	Miss H. Ogston. Chair: Miss Hill.	8 p.m.
" 13	Lewisham, Avenue House, Avenue Road, At Home	Christmas Bazaar	8 p.m.
Wednesday, 14	Paddington, 50, Praed Street	Mrs. A. J. Webb. Hostess: Mrs. G. Gulich.	8.15 p.m.
" 14	Hampstead, 12, Bolzels Square	Miss Gibson.	8 p.m.
" 14	Monthly Meeting	Miss Blundell. Chair: Miss Lowy.	8 p.m.
" 14	Islington, Highbury Corner		
" 14	Norfolk Place, W.		
Thursday, 15	Finchbury Park, 12, Woodbury Grove	Mrs. Bates.	8 p.m.
" 15	Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, E.C.		
Friday, 16	156, Charing Cross Road, W.	Mrs. Pankhurst and others.	11 a.m.
" 16	Hampstead, 89, Heath Street		
" 16	Members Meeting	Mrs. Drummond.	8 p.m.
" 16	Harrow Road, Sutherland Avenue	Miss Kathleen Jarvis, Miss Rogers.	8 p.m.
" 16	Stratford Grove		8 p.m.
" 16	Wimbledon, 6, Victoria Crescent	Miss Edwina Tyson. Chair: Mrs. Lamartine Yates.	8 p.m.
" 16	The Broadway		

Every Friday, 156, Charing Cross Road, W., Poster Parades 11 a.m.

NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT.

Office—71, Blackett Street.
Organiser—Miss A. Williams, 88, Westgate Road.
Several new members joined during the day of Mr. Asquith's visit and business and lodges were in great demand. (See page 167.) All the post offices and the Liberal Club were guarded up to a late hour. A slight accident to a carriage occurred near the Palace Theatre during the meeting, and a policeman was overheard saying to another, "Don't go—it's only a ruse of the Suffragettes." This eloquent of the state of nerves to which the physical force element was reduced. Our unexpected restraint made all the presentations and preparations intensely ludicrous, and Newcastle enjoyed the laugh. The meeting on Wednesday evening was well attended, and members of the deputation gave their experiences in London. On Tuesday the organizer spoke to the Co-operative Guild at Willington Quay, and on Friday to the South Shields members and friends. Mrs. Atkinson also spoke.
Saturday, Dec. 10.—77, Blackett Street, Christmas Sale, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 14.—77, Blackett Street, Miss Williams and others, 7.30 p.m.

North-Western Counties.

LIVERPOOL AND CHESHIRE.
Office—21, Barry Street, Tel. 3761 Royal.
Organiser—Miss A. Ada Flatman.
Members are reminded that Christmas cards, calendars, crackers and other novelties are on sale at the office. They are asked to attend the sale of exhibition work (see below) and buy their Christmas presents.
Tuesday, Dec. 13.—Shop, Sale of Exhibition Work, 2 to 5 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 14.—" " " " " "
Thursday, Dec. 15.—" " " " " "
MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT.
Organiser—Miss Georgina Brackenbury and Miss Rosa Robinson.
Central Office—17, St. Anne's Square, Manchester. Tel. 3031 City.
A hearty invitation is extended to all members and friends to visit the new office. Owing to the postponement of the Southport Exhibition, articles suitable for Christmas presents will be on sale at the Christmas stall.
Tuesday, Dec. 13.—Mansfield Chambers, St. Anne's Square, At Home, 2 to 4 p.m.

The Woman's Press . . . CHRISTMAS BAZAAR . . .

156, Charing Cross Road,

Is open every day from 10 to 7.
Saturday 10 to 2.

Splendid Variety of Xmas Crackers.

Dainty and Useful
Presents of all kinds.

DOLLS, TOYS AND BOOKS FOR THE PICCANINNIES

Practical Presents for Husband,
... Father, and Friends ...

Charming Gifts for Ladies.

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF.

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Is only a few yards from Tottenham Court Road
and Oxford Street Tube Stations.

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of appetite at
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of Europe.
COLMAN'S
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MUSTARD
It should always be
present at your table.

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Tailor.

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made to order
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Coat & Skirt

Made to order from

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Black, Navy, & Green Serge
Dresses ... 2 lbs.
Tweed, Cloth, & Linen ... 2 lbs.
Vests, Neckties, Flannels, Fanny
Garters ... 3d.
Faced Cloth, Velvet
Coating, &c. ... 3d.
Throat-Quarter
Scarf ... 1d.
Patterns & Designs sent free.
A special study made of
fitting from pattern Bodice
or Self-Measurement
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part of the United
Kingdom.

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WEARS FOR 50
YEARS.

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REAL SILVER.

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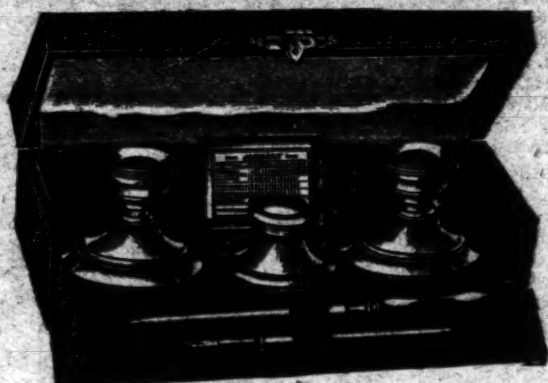
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62, High Holborn, London, W.C.

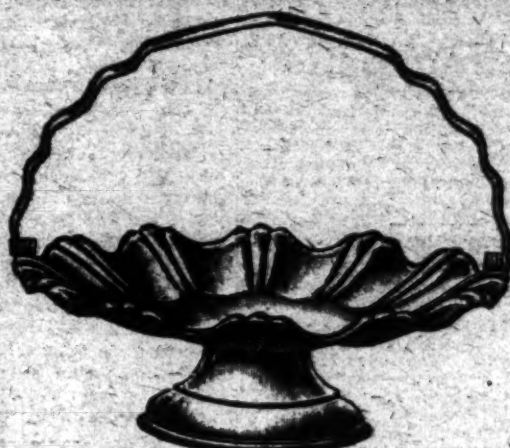
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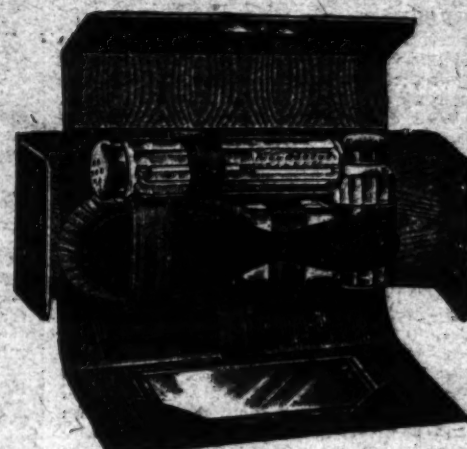
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WEARS LIKE SILVER.



Sterling Silver Writing Set, Complete.
Special Value, 27/6.



Cake Basket, Best Electro Plate, 18/6.



Ladies' Leather Dressing Case,
Fitted Complete, 10/6.



5 Stone Sapphire and
Diamond Half-Hoop
Ring, £2 15s.



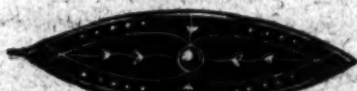
5 Stone Diamond Half-
Hoop Ring, £2 4s.



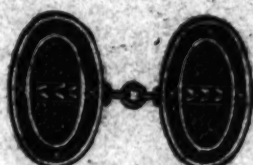
5 Stone Ruby and
Diamond Ring,
£3 10s.



Enamelled Hat Pin,
Pearl Centre, 1s.



Enamelled Brooches, Various
Colours, 1s.



Enamel Links, From
2s. pair.



Enamelled and Silver
Brooch, 1s.
Various Colours.



9-ct. Gold Locket,
12s. 6d.



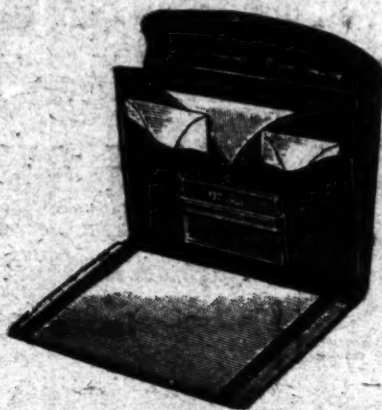
9-ct. Gold Basket Pattern Bracelet, £1 15s. Others (Curbs) from 12/6 each.



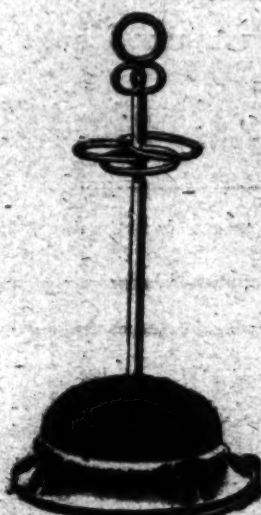
15-ct. Gold Pillar and Bead Bracelet, £3 3s.



Needlecases,
From 1/- to 12/6.



Leather Writing Cases,
From 3/6 to 35/-.



Silver Hatpin Stands,
From 4/-.



Manicure Set.
Ebony, 15/9. Ivory, 19/-.
Silver, from 12/6.



Nickel Patent Cigar Lighter,
1/9 each.
Silver, 15/- each.



Silver Flower Vases,
From 3/9 to 25/-.



Leather Handbags of every Description,
From 3/6 to 42/-.



Inlaid Mahogany 8-Day Clock,
17/6.



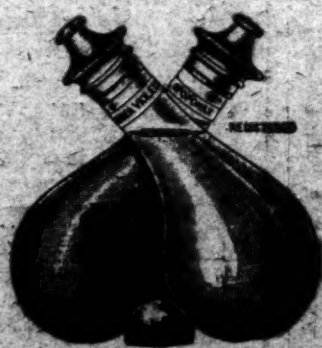
SCISSORS.
Best Sheffield Cutlery,
Three Pairs in Case, 6/6.
Others from 4/6 to £3 3s.



Muffin Dish, Best Electro Plate,
12/6.



Travelling Watch Leather
Case,
Folds Flat, 15/-.



Silver-mounted Twin Scent, 5/6.



Silver-mounted Pin Box,
From 5/6.



Gilt 8-Day Carriage Clock,
Complete, in Case, 13/9.

TABLE CUTLERY, SPOONS AND FORKS, CUPS, PRIZES, MEDALS, PLATE CHESTS, Etc.

MEMBERS OF THE DEPUTATION.

Mrs. Robson, one of the members of the deputation, is suffering from blood poisoning as a result of injuries received in the conflict with the police.

We learn that Miss Lucy Burns is in the punishment cell at Holloway Prison. It is also reported that Miss Bell and Miss Davison are being forcibly fed.

MR. CHURCHILL GRIEVED.

No Dealings with Suffragettes.

This is the title under which the *Pall Mall Gazette* reports the deputations to the Home Secretary. Mr. Churchill, at Dundee on Thursday, met three deputations of women on the Suffrage question. He said that whatever he had admitted in friendly discussion had always been made the excuse for renewed abuse and insult, and any step in friendship towards them by him had only been met by grosser insults and more outrageous action. He did not honestly feel that the mere fact that a certain number of members of Parliament had been ready to vote for the second reading of the Conciliation Bill, but had not resolved to push the Bill, was an indication that the opinion of the country was in favour of the Bill. Those members could easily have coerced the Government or got another Government. The pledge given by the Premier on this matter would be maintained by the Government, but meantime he did not wish to give them any encouragement which might lead afterwards to reproaches.

"AN ELECTION ANOMALY."

"Mr. Joseph Myers writes:—Mrs. Lees has been appointed returning officer for Oldham, but although fit to be Mayor of that important borough, whatever qualifications she might otherwise possess, she is debarred by her sex from exercising the Parliamentary franchise. In case of a tie at the forthcoming election would she be privileged to give the casting vote as returning officer? If the answer is in the affirmative and the contingency referred to should arise a ridiculous situation would be created."

—Manchester Guardian.

THE WASHINGTON VICTORY.

Miss Adela M. Parker writes from Seattle to the *Woman's Journal* (Boston) in reference to the decision of Washington State to enfranchise its women:—"It was a great victory. . . . We have won in a clean, educational campaign, and the men feel as happy about it as we do, realising that they have done a just and gracious thing, and that they have simply been expected to do it as soon as it was drawn to their attention. We are receiving praise from all quarters for the kind of campaign we put up—no personalities, no boasting of what we would do, no promises, no meddling with other issues, just 'Votes for Women,' straight through, because it is just and reasonable, and because it has everywhere been found expedient. In some polling places women were given places, and in some our little 'Don't forget to vote for the Amendments' were tacked up on the wall."

MISS ROSA LEO.

We gladly publish the following letter from Mr. Israel Zangwill to Miss Rosa Leo, whose instructions have been so greatly appreciated by members of the "Speakers' Class":—

Dear Miss Leo,—I am amazed to think I have lived all these years without knowing how to breathe. Thanks to your teachings I spoke for nearly an hour at the Albert Hall without weariness—at least to myself—while my voice carried to every part of the hall, and even, I hope, outside.

(Signed) ISRAEL ZANGWILL.

Far End, East Preston, Worthing.
November 21, 1910.

CLERKS' W.S.P.U.

Hon. Secs.: Miss Phyllis Lynton, 23, Edith Road, Kensington, W. Miss Cynthia Maguire, 13, Carlton Vale, Maida Vale, N.W.

All Clerks and Secretaries in the W.S.P.U. are asked to send in their names to one of the hon. secs. Now that the London elections are practically over there will be City meetings to work up, and the weekly "At Home" at Farringdon Hall must be well advertised among business women. A great deal of splendid work could be done in this way if clerks in the Union could get into touch with each other. City members are asked to lend their drawing-rooms, offices, etc., for meetings.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

Adelphi Terrace House, 2, Robert Street, Strand, W.C. Telephone: City 1214.

Organising Secretary—Miss Margaret Cameron. Notwithstanding the General Election, there was a very fair attendance at the monthly meeting held at the Criterion Restaurant on Friday last. Mrs. Ben Webster was in the chair, and in a charming speech introduced the various speakers. They were Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Mrs. Louis Fagan, and Mrs. Arnold Bennett; Mrs. Madeline Lucette Ryley appealed for funds. The committee have arranged for the Annual Birthday Party to be held in the Victoria Hall, Criterion Restaurant, on Friday, December 16, at 3 o'clock. Tea tickets, 1s. each, are on sale at the office and at the Criterion on the day. Members of all Suffrage societies, and those interested in the movement, are cordially invited. Doors open 2.20. The next meeting will be held on January 6, at the Criterion Restaurant, at 3 o'clock.

SCHOOLBRED'S BAZAAR.

In doing the round of the Christmas shops one should bear in mind that Schoolbred's, Tottenham Court Road, have a specially attractive Bazaar now open. In the Fickies' Cave, which is the centre of attraction, buyers have their goods handed to them by real live Pixies. The Bazaar offers a very wide range of presents of all kinds and prices. A handsome catalogue of some two hundred and fifty pages and containing numberless illustrations will be sent on application. The catalogue will enable dwellers in out of the way places to buy all their Christmas presents at London prices.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS OF DISTINCTIVE DESIGNS.

The gem jewellery, gold and silver plate of the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths' Company, Ltd., of 112, Regent Street, London, W., are distinguished by the finest workmanship; their exclusive designs cannot be obtained elsewhere. Illustrated Novelty List post free on application. [Adv.]

IRISHWOMEN'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

Mrs. Palmer, Hon. Secretary of the League, presided at the usual Tuesday meeting, on November 23, and read some interesting details from the Irish contingent which joined the militant deputation to Westminster. Mr. Mackey (Secretary, Parliamentary Debating Society), Miss Duggan, LL.B. (T.O.D.), and Mr. Sheehy Skeffington were the speakers. An interesting meeting (the first of its kind ever held there) took place in Bandon, Co. Cork, recently, under the auspices of the Cork Branch, I.W.F.L. Miss Day, B.A., Hon. Sec., made many converts for the cause in the course of her remarks and a lively discussion followed. The I.W.F.L. has issued queries to all Irish Parliamentary candidates as to their attitude on Votes for Women, and is circulating widely among the electors at their meetings and at the polling stations its Election Manifesto calling upon Irishmen to question all candidates and to vote only for those who give satisfactory pledges. While Irishwomen are suffering imprisonment for the cause, there can be no truce with those responsible. Owing to Sir Edward Carson, Chairman of Irish Unionist Party, having persistently ignored requests to receive a deputation on Woman Suffrage, he was cleverly heckled by five members of the Irishwomen's Franchise League at a large Unionist meeting in Rathmines Town Hall on Thursday, Dec. 1. On the occasion of his election as member for Dublin University he was again approached, and sent a verbal message to the effect that he would lay the matter before his party. At the same time a petition was presented on behalf of the women sophisters of Trinity College claiming the vote for University women "as a desirable protection for unrepresented professional women," and praying that, should the Conciliation Bill be introduced in a form to admit of amendment, such amendment should be introduced by the members for Dublin University. Sir Edward Carson promised to move the amendment.

The second reading of the Women's Franchise Bill was carried in the House of Commons by a majority of 110. Mr. Asquith put his personal veto (a one-man veto) upon the Bill which the National Assembly had approved. Mr. Asquith's determination is to destroy Representative Government, and he never fails to act up to his principles.

—Financial News.

Mrs. MARY LAYTON, F.R.C.O.

(Hon. Organist to the W.S.P.U.)

Voice Culture for Singers and Speakers.

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40, Wigmore Street, W., and Stanley House, Milner Street, Chelsea.

VOTES FOR WOMEN AND A GOOD LAUNDRY.

Good Work and Good Wages.

THE BEACONSFIELD LAUNDRY,

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HIGH CLASS WORK ONLY.

SEND A POSTCARD FOR PRICE LIST.

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Chiropody on Hygienic and Antiseptic Lines.

Chiropody, 5/- American Method.

Manicure, 2/6.

100, NEW BOND ST., W.

Easy Terms—paying work for Women.
NEW HARRISON SWIFT GOLD MEDAL.



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Stockings, shawls, or clothing, in WOOL, SILK, or COTTON. INSTRUCTIONS FREE. Makers of "LIVE" Wool. Unsurpassable. Best for Wear. Samples Free. Lists Free. Works: 163, Upper Brook St., Manchester. Branch: 54, Goudge St., London, W.

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Alterations made to Existing Gardens.

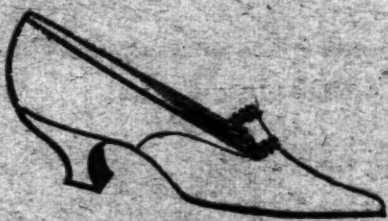
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1/2 SIZES.

GLACE KID or PATENT LEATHER.

6/11 1/2 Per Pair.

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Miss FOLKARD,

Artistic Dress and Mantle Maker,

3, Hill's Place, Oxford Circus, W.

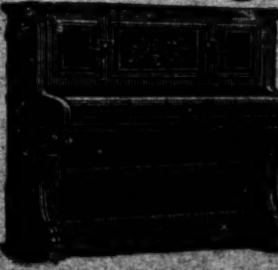
Ladies' Materials made up in January & September.

H. Nelissen, LADIES' TAILOR.

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ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

Single insertion, 1d. a word; minimum, 2s.

(Four insertions for the price of three).

All advertisements must be prepaid. To ensure insertion in our next issue, all advertisements must be received not later than Tuesday afternoon. Address, the Advertisement Manager, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

CHISWICK W.S.P.U.—The next of the series of Cinderellas held in the Chiswick Town Hall on Saturday, January 7, will be a **FANCY DRESS DANCE** (evening dress optional), and a prize will be given to the lady and gentleman who obtain the greatest number of votes (by ballot) for their costume. Tickets (including refreshments), as usual, obtainable from any member of the Chiswick W.S.P.U., or Hon. Sec., 63, Sutton Court Road, single, 4s.; double (lady and gentleman), 7s. 6d.

LOST PROPERTY.—Miss Kerr is in charge of this department. All communications in reference to property Lost or Found should be sent direct to Miss Kerr, Lost Property Department, VOTES FOR WOMEN Offices, 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

RUSSIAN ART EXHIBITION. By 100 Leading Artists. Daily, 10 to 6. Admission 1s.—Dore Gallery, 35, New Bond Street, W.

BOARD RESIDENCE.

Rooms, Holiday Homes, Etc.

BLOOMSBURY.—Vacancies during holidays. Students, teachers, other ladies. Full or partial board. References exchanged.—"Haploir," VOTES FOR WOMEN Offices 4, Clements Inn, Strand.

BOARD-RESIDENCE.—Hollywood House, 16, Upper Bedford Place, Russell Square, W.C. Very central, comfortable home, good table, electric light, bath, h. and c.; terms moderate.

BOARD-RESID.—superior, 26, Kensington Gardens Sq., Hyde Park. Close Queen's Rd. Tube, Met. Excellent position, overlooking gardens. Most comfortable, clean, quiet. Good cooking. Liberal table. From 21s. Highest refs.

BRIGHTON.—TITCHFIELD HOUSE, 21, Upper Rock Gardens, Marine Parade. Good table. Congenial society. Terms from 25s. inclusive.

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